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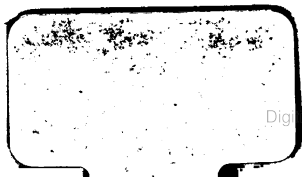
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
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A:HARTFORD &:NEW:HAVEN PIONEER:



MVNISON:REVNION
:AVGVST:17th:1887:

 The Family Historian is anxious to complete and publish the History and Genealogy of the Family at the earliest day possible. Information concerning families should be extended down to the date of the Reunion, and all facts should be in the Historian's hands by December 31st. His present address is Rev. M. A. Munson, 28 Worcester street, Boston, Mass.

November 22, 1887.

Read an account of the *Munson Association* on page 85.

OFFICERS OF THE MUNSON ASSOCIATION.

President.

LUZERNE I. MUNSON, Waterbury, Conn.

Vice Presidents.

LOVELAND MUNSON, Manchester, Vt.

GILBERT D. MUNSON, Zanesville, Ohio.

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JARED H. MUNSON, New York.

Family Historian.

Rev. M. A. MUNSON, New Haven, Conn.

~~1887~~

PROCEEDINGS

OF

THE FIRST

MENSON FAMILY REUNION

HELD AT THE

CITY OF NEW HAVEN.

Wednesday August 17 1887.

NEW HAVEN:

TUTTLE, MOREHOUSE & TAYLOR, PRINTERS

1887.

State Historical Society
OF CONNECTICUT

MADE IN

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PREFACE.

In response to a general invitation sent out to the Munson Family by the Committee of Arrangements previously appointed, about 500 members of the family met in the Center Church in New Haven, Conn., on the morning of August 17th, 1887.

Much interest was manifested by those present, and after many fraternal greetings a very appropriate programme, presented by the Committee, was successfully carried out.

CS
71
M755
1987

EXERCISES IN CENTER CHURCH.

Chairman.

MR. EDGAR MUNSON, of Pennsylvania.

Vice Chairmen.

HON. LUZERNE I. MUNSON, of Connecticut.

DR. EDWIN D. SWIFT, of Connecticut.

1. Voluntary—Organ.
2. Secretary's Report. Deacon Sheldon Munson, Tariffville, Conn.
3. Family Worship. Rev. Fred'k Munson, Brooklyn, N. Y.
4. Address of Welcome. Hon. Luzerne I. Munson, Waterbury, Conn.
5. Response. C. La Rue Munson, Esq., Williamsport, Penn.
6. Singing—"The breaking waves dashed high." Mrs. Eva Munson Smith, Mr. H. Wilson Munson, Miss Emily C. Munson, Mr. Willard L. Munson.
7. Historical Address—"The Life, Character and Public Services of Captain Thomas Munson, with a few glimpses of his posterity." Rev. Myron A. Munson, New Haven, Conn.
8. Singing—"O God, beneath thy guiding hand." By the assembly.
9. Announcements.
10. Benediction.

THE MUNSON FAMILY REUNION.

THE PRESIDENT

Called the Family to order and made a very appropriate address, congratulating all present upon the favorable auspices under which they met.

THE SECRETARY

Then presented a detailed report of the committee's doings since its organization.

PRAYER

BY REV. FREDERICK MUNSON.

Our Heavenly Father, we thy servants now assembled, in recognition of the ties of kindred that unite us together, reverently offer our grateful homage unto thee. Thou art the God of all the families of the earth. All souls are thine. All nations, tribes and households experience thy preserving goodness, and owe to thee allegiance. Thy special favor is bestowed upon those that acknowledge, love and serve thee.

We thank thee that in thy wise providence thou didst bring our common ancestor to these shores, and didst give him an honorable

part in founding this goodly city, which has become a center of elevating and refining influences, and the seat of that great university which has prepared many thousands for usefulness in this and other lands. We thank thee for what he was enabled to do in the early years of this now ancient Church, where thy Word has been preached and thine ordinances administered by a succession of godly, able, eminent and faithful pastors, and souls in great numbers have been led by thy truth and spirit unto the Lord Jesus. With gratitude to thee for his life of usefulness in the community during the infancy of the commonwealth, would we now commemorate his coming two and a half centuries ago. We thank thee for thy favor to his house, for thy blessings conferred upon his children according to thy promise, for thy protecting care over the earlier generations of his descendants as they went forth to encounter the perils of the wilderness, for the degree of fidelity with which by thy help they performed the work to which thou didst call them. We rejoice before thee, who searchest all hearts, that although thou hast seen among them faults and errors to forgive, thou hast also seen many deeds of piety and beneficence to approve.

Do thou now graciously bless us all here present with a deep sense of our obligations to thee. Regard with great kindness thy servant whom thou hast inclined to gather the family memorials which are now in part to be laid before us. May he be blessed with restored health, and receive abundant rewards for his protracted and difficult labors. Grant thy favor to those upon whom have devolved the care and toil of making these arrangements. While the occasion is made the means of increasing in us the knowledge of our ancestry, and of bringing us into a nearer acquaintance with one another, may it also exalt our views of thy goodness. We humbly entreat thee to bless the generations that are now upon the stage of action, and may every household and every individual share in thy love. Help us to practice in our lives the virtues of honesty, industry, courage and fidelity, manifested in those who have gone before, and grant us that wisdom from above that is profitable to direct. Support the aged; comfort and relieve any who may be in trouble; guide the strong; bless and

save the young. And may the generations to come, even to the latest period of time, walk in thy light, thy truth and thy love.

And the blessings that we ask for ourselves and for our kindred, present and absent, in this land and in the earlier home beyond the sea, we entreat also for all the families of mankind. May all own and honor thee, and receive through thy grace the rewards given to the willing and obedient. And may there soon dawn the glorious day when all families shall be one in the family of Christ.

Be thou with us while we are here together, and so direct us in all the transactions in which we engage that thine approval may rest upon us. Bless us in our social intercourse and enjoyments. Abide with those whose homes are amid these classic shades. Accompany those who, as we separate, return to their abodes in various parts of our wide country. May thy gracious presence cheer us all in the entire journey of this life. And as by thy calls we shall be gathered one by one, and be no more amid these earthly scenes, may it be to be received to the bright mansions above opened to us through the infinite merits of our divine Lord and Redeemer, in whose worthy name we ask and offer all, and to whom with the Father and the Holy Spirit be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME

BY LUZERNE I. MUNSON.

RELATIVES AND FRIENDS : We meet to-day for the first time in a family reunion. Two hundred and fifty years ago Captain Thomas Munson was the first to bear our name to these shores, and soon after he made his home within the limits of New Haven. He came from sturdy English stock, and was one of the foremost in founding the early New Haven colony. In later years his descendants assumed fully their share of the responsibility and hardship made necessary by the war for American Independence. After peace was declared and the union of the states assured, his descendants filled for years

many places of honor and trust in this town. In later years few, if any, could be found who were not loyal to this government in time of rebellion, while many bearing our family name sacrificed their lives on the battle-field, in order to maintain a free and undivided Union. Our ancestry was made up of men and women of whom we may be justly proud.

Until a few years since most of us knew but little as regards our family history; recently one of our number has given much time and attention to this subject, and to him we are largely indebted for this present meeting. You will be glad to hear from him, and he will soon relate to you much more fully in regard to the family history than I possibly could.

I congratulate you upon the favorable auspices under which we meet. To renew old acquaintances and to form new ones should be our aim, and if we do no more than this our meeting will not be in vain. I congratulate you upon a common ancestry with a record so complete in all that is to be honored and revered. I congratulate you upon the goodly number present—especially upon the presence of such as have come from afar—thereby manifesting the greatness of their interest in the family history and relationships.

I bid you all a hearty welcome. I welcome you who came from afar to the goodly State of Connecticut. While we are not large in territorial domains, nor rich in worldly goods as compared with some other states, yet we claim for Connecticut a wealth of intelligence and moral worth which is represented not only by her citizens who are at home, but by the sons and daughters whom she has sent into every state of the Union for the past hundred years or more.

I bid you who do not reside in this municipality a cordial welcome to the "City of Elms," well known throughout this whole country for its beauty and elegant surroundings—better known as the location of Yale College, whose influence is world-wide, and beneath the shadow of which we now meet.

Especially would I welcome you to this ancient Christian church, which has very appropriately been selected as the place of our first reunion. This church's history is almost as old as the New Haven colony, and its influence has gone out not only through this state but into every remote part of our broad land. It has been renowned for its fidelity to the teachings of our forefathers in religious truths, for its patriotic

sentiments in the time of the Revolutionary War and in the late Civil War. It was here that our early ancestors met to worship, and in the rear of this edifice lie buried the remains of Captain Thomas Munson; in yonder cemetery stands his head-stone.

To such surroundings and to such a family history, so full of pleasant memories, I bid you, one and all, a cordial welcome.

RESPONSE

BY C. LARUE MUNSON.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen :

Right gladly do I respond to the Address of Welcome of our distinguished brother, and willingly do I acknowledge, in your behalf, the hospitality so cordially extended to us who have assembled at this the first Reunion of our family.

Gathered from every part of the land to celebrate the landing on these shores, two hundred and fifty years ago, of our common ancestor, we cannot but feel that we are welcomed home, for where our forefather first established his dwelling-place in the land he looked upon as the refuge of those who sought freedom and happiness, must be regarded as our ancestral home, the Mecca toward which we turn our faces when called to join in celebrating his choice of a land where he might dwell freed from the trammels of a government which sought to restrain the enjoyment of the inalienable rights of man.

Whatever state may claim our allegiance, and I yield none of the glory due the commonwealth of my citizenship, still we are compelled to render honor to these shores, not only hallowed by the footfall of our progenitor, but also by the fact that here our ancestor, in common with others of that sturdy race, laid the foundations of this great and glorious nation.

New England can justly claim that she is the home from which, to build up a free country, a people has gone forth

whose voice has been heard in all lands, and whose descendants have had no small part in making this the land of peace, prosperity and happiness. * * * *

In the formation of our government, in her halls of Congress, in the administration of her laws, and in their judicial application, in the education of her youth, in the invention of that which has improved the condition of her people, in religious sentiment, and the obeying of the laws of God and man, in times of peace and in times of war, in the abolition of slavery, and in every thing which has ameliorated the condition of man and brought him nearer to that perfection required of God, New England's people and their descendants have had the greater part.

It is, then, highly proper that we should thus meet, for possibly the only time in our lives, to celebrate the coming to this city of our common ancestor, Captain Thomas Munson.
* * * *

Our ancestor left his native land when sails alone could bring him to another shore, when the power of steam was unknown, when the announcement of his departure could not be flashed to another continent, and when long weeks in place of a few short days were required to make the then perilous journey. What must have been his feelings as he parted with all man holds dear and sought almost unknown shores, where he might worship God in freedom and assist in laying the foundations of a free government. He found a country peopled but sparsely, and we are parts of a great nation of fifty million souls, living under one flag, and every one of us a king.

All honor, then, is due our sturdy ancestor, and proud may we be that his blood flows in our veins and that we bear his honored name.

We know indeed that we are at home, and the hospitable greeting extended to us makes us feel all the more that we are in the land of our fathers, where his children are always welcomed, and whence we can return to our dwelling-places more than ever assured that we can have no prouder boast than that we are sons and daughters of one of those who, coming here in times of sore distress in their native land, laid the foundations of a nation which, under the blessing of God, must exist until time shall be no more.

This beautiful City of Elms, so noted for its hospitality, has extended to us cordial greeting and made us feel it is well that we came hither. New Haven is famous in many respects, but in nothing more than that she has a seat of learning of which no other state can boast an equal. What one who has been blessed with an education received within the hallowed walls of Yale University can ever fail of thanks to that city and state which have cherished and fostered so noble an institution.

We accept the hospitality and welcome so cordially extended, and long will remain in our memory the recollection of this meeting, and ever may we retain that veneration for our ancestor which will tend all the more to bind us together as sharers of a common name and sons of one man.

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HISTORICAL ADDRESS

BY

REV. MYRON A. MUNSON, M. A.,

A great-great-great-great-great-grandson of Capt. Thomas Munson.

I congratulate you, admirable and esteemed cousins, upon the dawning of our Quarter-Millennial. Arise we and with reverent hands break the seal and roll away the stone from the mouth of the family sepulchre.

Salutatory. This day is the resurrection of the name and the fame of our greatest grandsire, Thomas Munson. With him, at his august beck, step forth from their shadowy habitations in God's-acre sterling sons and delectable daughters by thousands, smiling and glad though serene, to join with voiceless fellowship and silent rejoicings in our commemorative and congratulatory festival.

Our Adam. Half a thousand minds are eagerly inquiring: What was the origin of our venerable originator? He suddenly emerges from silence and darkness,—his antecedents as mysterious as those of the lightning's flash. He was never born,—so far as history knows. Do we not conceive of the Adam of the human race as about twenty-five years of age at the moment of his creation? In a similar manner the Adam of our family, without any antecedents or any nativity, suddenly makes his appearance on the stage of life, like a new creation, at the age of twenty-five. This first appearance was at Hartford, by the Indians called Suckiaug, two hundred and fifty years ago last May, and he is already accoutred as a soldier,

about to engage in a war as pregnant with momentous results, it may be, as any which has ever been waged.

At that period the region from the Atlantic ocean to the Alleghanies was one vast, solemn forest,—a paradise of war-paths and hunting-grounds. The throne of Indian

Indian
Situation
in 1637.

power was among The Five Nations, of central New York,—usually called The Mohawks, from that confederate which enjoyed the supremacy. Proud, warlike, vehement, irresistible, their name was a terror to all other red-men. Every spring, two old Mohawk chiefs might have been seen going from village to village through Connecticut, collecting tribute and haughtily issuing orders from the great council at Onondaga.

The number of Indians who were occupying the territory now known as the State of Connecticut has been very diversely estimated at from six or seven to twelve or twenty thousand. These estimates imply from 1200 to 4000 warriors. It is conceived that one-half of these may have been Pequots, whose forts and wigwams extended along the Sound some thirty miles. The Thames, on which New London is situated, was then called Pequot river, and one of the two great forts of the nation—the one at which the historic battle occurred—was located eight miles northeast of New London. The Pequots were the most ambitious, the most valiant, the most fierce and the most powerful by far of all the communities eastward of the Hudson. They were a terror to all the wide-reaching wilderness around them: they were to New England what the Mohawks were to the whole country eastward of the Mississippi. To them, as well as to the Mohawks, the Quinnipiacs of this neighborhood paid tribute.

Such was the Indian situation in the spring of 1637:

what was that of the Colonists? Hartford was two years old; north and south of it, adjoining, were Windsor and

Wethersfield. Twenty-six miles north was Agawam, one year old; we know it as Springfield.

Colonists' Situation in 1637.

Sixty miles below Hartford,—forty-six as the crow flies,—at the mouth of the river, on the west shore, was Saybrook fort, one year old. These five infant settlements were the only habitations of white men in all the Connecticut valley. Their neighbors were about a hundred miles distant, and mind you these were roadless, wilderness miles. There was no New Haven, Milford, Guilford, Middletown, Waterbury,—but, rather, Quinnipiac, Wepowaug, Menunkatuc, Mattabesett, Mattatuck. The Bay State had no Westfield, Northfield, Deerfield, Hadley or Northampton,—but, instead, Woronoco, Squakeheag, Pocomtuck, Norwottock and Nonotuck. Accordingly when trouble arose with the Pequots the aspect of affairs was extremely serious. The white settlements could muster two hundred and fifty or two hundred and seventy-five men capable of bearing arms; there were 5000 Indian braves within easy marching distance of the mouth of the Connecticut.

Endicott's expedition, calling the Pequots to account for murders, converted that nation into a gigantic hornets' nest. Killing whites became their recreation. Several at

Wethersfield were assassinated and two girls were carried into captivity. The savages, dressed in the clothes of the English whom they had murdered; would approach the fort at Saybrook with defiant jeers: "Come out and get your clothes again!" and they would mimic and mock the prayers and shrieks and groans of the wretched colonists whom they had tortured. Great was the distress of the settlements. A cunning and ferocious enemy haunted them and hunted them day and night.

(Storm Rising.)

Ninety men, of whom forty-two were furnished by Hartford, descended the Connecticut under the leadership of Capt. Mason, and sailed eastward past the Pequot country to the vicinity of Point Judith: seventy-seven men disembarked among the Narragansetts, took up their march westerly, and, at daybreak on the 5th of June, surprised one of the hostile forts—a palisade on a hill, enclosing about an acre, and embracing seventy wigwams. A dog barked—a Pequot yelled, “Owanux! Owanux!” In rushed the lion-like pale-faces and engaged in a desultory, heroical warfare. At length, in desperation, the commander seized a fire-brand and applied it to the dry mats with which one of the rude dwellings was covered. Several hundred of the Pequots perished by the musket, the sword and the conflagration, and only seven escaped.

Pequot
War.

While the victorious army was retreating, three hundred warriors, dispatched by Sassacus from the other fortress, rapidly approached until they beheld the smoking and smouldering ruins which were the crematory of their brethren; then stamping and tearing their hair, they rushed down with great fury upon the conquerors. They were promptly repulsed, with a hundred slain and wounded.

It was in this terrific war, pregnant with inexpressibly momentous consequences, that Thomas Munson made his first appearance, two centuries and a half ago; and he was preëminently a military man during the forty-eight years which followed.

You may note, if you please, that our spirited and intrepid soldier received an allotment in the Soldiers' Field, (on the northern margin of Hartford,) in recognition of his meritorious services in this war, and that he was subsequently presented with an additional hundred acres for the same cause.¹

¹ “The Soldiers' Field and its Original Proprietors,” by F. H. Parker, Esq.

We have recognized that Hartford was two years old at the date of the Pequot war; whether Soldier Munson had been there from the beginning, as is most (Twilight.) likely, we are not informed. He had probably spent some months or years in the older towns about Massachusetts Bay; but we lack light upon the subject. Boston, at the time of the war, was seven years old; Salem, nine; Plymouth, seventeen.

Munson's Transatlantic History.

In respect to his transatlantic history there is nothing known with positiveness. Traditions have come down, along numerous and widely separated family lines, that he had some kind of connection with Wales; and it is the only tradition concerning him which has any value whatever. In some way his early history acquired a Welsh tinge. But there is no doubt of his English nationality. The Monson race belonging to the peerage has a known and accepted history of five hundred years; our American history extends back one-half that distance; the presumption is almost a certainty that our branch is from that ancient trunk. Lord Monson, Aide-de-Camp to the Queen, concluded his fourth letter to me, 11 March, 1887, in this graceful way: "With best wishes for the welfare of my Transatlantic Cousins and for the success of your Autumnal gathering." A brother of Lord Monson, Sir Edmund, Her Majesty's Minister to the King of Denmark, wrote from Copenhagen, July 24, 1886: "When I was appointed Attaché to the British Legation at Washington, in 1858, my Father, Lord Monson, . . . was very anxious to know the subsequent career of the Monsons which had emigrated to America in the

Seventeenth Century." Sir Edmund observes again: "I have little doubt that our common ancestor was a Dane."

Turning from things obscure, let us return to what may be known. Our forefather was born two hundred and seventy-five years ago, somewhere, and two hundred and fifty years ago was a pioneer of Hartford and participated in the Pequot war; after the war, he continued to reside in that plantation a little more than two years, apparently,—having a house-lot comprising two and one-half acres on the present High street, opposite the head of Walnut: this street was then known as "the highway leading from the Cow-pasture to Mr. Allen's land." There was a house on this ground in February, 1640, which was probably built by Munson. Previously to this date he had sold the place to Nath. Kellogge, and he had also sold his portion of the Soldiers' Field. Two parcels of land, on opposite sides of the Connecticut river, had been forfeited by his removal from the plantation.

In 1639, at the age of twenty-seven, Thomas became a pioneer of New Haven, then known as Quinnipiac. The settlement was begun the preceding year. The beginners

had laid out a town-site half a mile square, having its base, on the south, parallel to the West Creek, and having its east side parallel with East Creek; both of these arms of the sea were navigable.

The town-plot was divided into nine equal squares, of

which the central was called the Market-place, designed for public uses; it is the famous Green, upon which we are now assembled. Each of the

eight streets was called "the towne streete"—having no distinctive name, and at the end of each there was a gate.

In the Market-place the military forces were drilled, and here they assembled when an alarm was sounded. Here was the watch-house, the head-quarters of the night-

*Pioneer of
Hartford.*

*Pioneer of
New Haven.*

*(Town-
Square.)*

watchmen. Here were the other public buildings,—and especially *the* public building called the Meeting-house, which was the sanctuary where all worshiped, but also the town-house, court-house, state-house, and, to some extent at least, the arsenal. “The Church of Christ in New Haven,” which was the only ecclesiastical organization within the limits of the present town during the first one hundred and four years of its history, still survives and has opened to us its hospitable doors on this occasion.

The “Proprietors” purchased lands from the Indians with a common fund, and there were nine “divisions” of different sections of the so-called common-land, extending over a hundred and twenty years.¹ The amount of land

(Lands.) each proprietor received in the distribution was determined by his investment in the common stock, the number of heads in his family, his official dignity, and other considerations. The size of the house-lots in the town-square was similarly determined. To certain settlers who did not contribute to the common stock “small lots” were granted,—most of them along the West Creek, opposite the town-square. Such “planters” also received limited allotments of land in the second “division,”—“layd out beyond the East River betwixt our pastors farme and the Indians wiggwams.”

On the north side of the town-square was the house-lot of Robert Newman, afterwards ruling-elder. That lot, of perhaps two and one-half acres, is now divided by Temple street, whose superb Gothic arch of elms you admired as

(A Barn.) you were entering this sanctuary. On Mr. Newman’s place was a barn,—Cotton Mather calls it “a mighty barn,”—which was utilized as a place of civic and religious assembly before the erection of a meeting-house. In that historic barn the constitution of the

¹ Ninth division in 1760.

colony was created in June, 1639. It was ordained that those not present¹ who were to be "planters," should subscribe this "Fundamental Agreement," as it was called, with their own hand; and so it comes to pass that we have the autograph of Thomas Munson, which is sixth in a list of forty-eight.

The first *definite* date touching Thomas Munson's history as a New Havener is April 3d, 1640, when the court ordered "thatt brother Andrewes and brother Mounson shall veiw the grounds of difference betwixt Mr. Malbon and Thomas Moulenor the elder." This appointment was complimentary to "brother Mounson" as a new-comer, and only twenty-eight years of age.

And now, patient seekers for knowledge, we have somewhat tediously worked our way through the fogs and snags and sand-bars of the subject into an open sea where fair sailing rewards us.

Private Biography.

The private biography of our ancestor, as known to us, is very brief.

As early as 1640, he received one of the "small lots" on the south side of George Street, along the West Creek. Eleven years later, intending probably to remove to Delaware Bay, he disposed of his lot together with a dwelling-house, barn, shop, hen-house, garden and trees. His residence the next five years is unrevealed. In 1656, he bought the lot on the southeast corner of Elm and Church streets, opposite the Green, where the "Blue Meeting-house" afterwards stood; just below, on Elm street, were the habitations of Mr. Davenport and Gov. Eaton.

¹ Sixty-three names of those present were inscribed by the secretary.

Six years later he purchased the place formerly owned by Robert Newman on Grove street—now bisected by Temple street. This was his home during the last twenty-three years of his life. His neighbor eastward was Andrewes, the ex-innkeeper; his neighbors westward were Benjamin Linge and his life-long guest, Col. Dixwell, the regicide. Capt. Munson's home was afterwards owned by his son and three of his grandsons successively; and in more recent times Noah Webster, the maker of dictionaries, had a residence on that ground.

Thomas was the father of three children: Elizabeth, the wife of Richard Higginbotham, a tailor, who removed to Elizabethtown, N. J., and thence to Stamford; Samuel, to whom we shall return later; and Hannah, who married Joseph Tuttle.

We know little of the domestic animals which added animation to the home-life of these children; but there is distinct mention of a dog—not a detestable barking whelp, but an exemplary creature—one that is silent, thoughtful and courageous, and willing to bite—when that is his duty. This worthy fellow's function was to discourage stupidity. Accordingly, in 1661, just ten days before the arrival of Goffe and Whalley, some ill-natured inhabitant complained of certain "doggs w^{ch} bite horses as they passe in the streets, to the endangering of their Riders: Sargent Munsons dogg, and Thos. Johnsons dogg, was spoken off." Well—some people are hard to please. Sydney Smith says he once heard a man "speak disrespectfully of the equator."

Our first father owned lands which he cultivated; but his trade was that of a carpenter. He and Boykin contracted to do a part of the work in building the first meeting-house,—in particular, some work connected with the tower and turret. He and Andrewes built the first

bridge over the Quinnipiac. His business was not limited to the New Haven plantation. You should add that his enterprising spirit led him to take a deep practical interest in the project of establishing a colony at Delaware Bay.

Though, as a recent writer remarks, "there was a woful shrinkage of estate in those days," though there were pervasive business disasters and impoverishing wars, and though our public-spirited forefather was consumingly devoted to civic and military service, yet, beginning as we suppose empty-handed, he came to be numbered with the wealthy.

It is scarcely necessary to say that this man worshiped and served the Almighty Lord, and was for some forty-five years, a member of the church which assembles under this roof. His burial, in 1685, was on the Green, a few yards from this spot, where Joanna his wife had been interred seven years previously. The grave-stones of both may be seen in the old cemetery.

OFFICIAL CAREER AND PUBLIC SERVICES.

Turn we now, Mr. President and worthy kinsmen, to the official career and the public services of Thomas Munson. We give attention to a number of points in his wide and rich experience as a committee-man, and then take up the honorable story of his executive, judicial, legislative and military career.

Committee-man.

The term committee (pardon this parenthesis) ordinarily indicates a number of men who are appointed by a larger body to examine into some particular matter or

manage some specific affair ; this one thing done, it ceases. Its limitation is a peculiarity.

Munson was appointed by government to appraise property ; I have noted ten estates of which he
Appraiser. was an appraiser. In 1670 he was member of a colonial committee "to set an appraisement upon the land belonging to the several plantations."

He was often appointed (with others) to "view" objects and conditions. Thus he viewed¹ the "way to the Plaines" where a highway was to be located ; he viewed² the Quinnipiac to select a site for a bridge ; he
Inspector. inspected³ the equipment of the cavalry ; he inspected the West Bridge⁴ and the historic Neck Bridge⁵ which, four years later, afforded refuge to Goffe and Whalley when nearly overtaken by King Charles's emissaries ; he inspected the condition of the first meeting-house eight times within twenty-one years,⁶—the last time using his influence decisively, it would appear, in favor of building a new house instead of multiplying repairs upon the old. At an uncertain date, "The Townes men Agreed to goe to all the Inhabitan^ce [of the] Towne and farmes to see how the children are educate in reading the word of God : Lieuten^ant Munson and J—— Chidsey for the square of the Towne," etc.

Munson was appointed (with others) to supervise work for the public : to fence vacant lots ;⁷ to construct a chest in the meeting-house "to putt the pikes in to keepe them
Supervisor. from warping ;"⁸ "to mend y^e ladder" by which a sentinel on "dayes of publike meeting" went up to take his stand upon the meeting-house ;⁹ to provide a suitable building for "a Colony Schoole (for teaching of

¹ 1642. ² 1646. ³ Alone ; 1656. ⁴ 1656. ⁵ 1651 and 1657.

⁶ 1647, 1648—Jan. and July, 1659, 1662—Apr. and Aug., 1665, 1668.

⁷ 1641. ⁸ 1645. ⁹ 1649.

latine, Greeke, & Hebrew);"¹ to execute an order "that the market place be forth-with cleared & the wood carried to the watch-howse & there piled for the vse & succour of the watch in cold weather."² In 1658 a scheme six years old had become so interesting that Thomas Munson and three others were chosen to consider whether "ye beavours pond brooke can be brought to the Towne, that the mill might be set up here;" this committee reported to another plenipotentiary committee of which Munson was a member, and the bold work was undertaken. In the records there is an abstract of a speech upon this subject by our ancestor, in which he specifies "the great dam," "y^e great trench," and the "pen-stocke" of which there is mention twenty years later.

This man, who was so rich in the faculty of judgment, was a member of committees to make final determinations. In two or more cases he was chosen as arbiter.³ He was selected (with others) to lay out roads, as "the Determiner. highway from Woodbury to Pawgasuck [i. e. Derby] to the most convenient place for a ferry;"⁴ and also the conspicuous East Haven thoroughfare, agreeably to this record under date of 1677: "Capt. Munson informed y^e Towne, that himselfe Capt. Rosewell & John Cooper seneor who was appointed by y^e Towne had now stated out and settled a highway from y^e ferry unto y^e farmes at y^e iron works." He was chosen to establish the boundaries of towns. Thus, in 1671, the General Court "appoints Lth Thomas Munson to runn the depth of the bownds of Brandford and Guilford to the northwards, according to their grant." In 1674 the Lieutenant assisted in establishing the "diuideing bownds" between New Haven and Branford; and in 1675 he was on a committee "to see to the settlement of both the

¹ 1660.² 1645.³ 1649, 1654.⁴ 1675.

bownds and distribution of lands" in the new plantation of Derby. In 1679 "The Town did appoint Mr. W^m Jones, Tho: Munson & John Cooper seneor theyer comittee to state out y^e Indians Land on y^e east side."

Our judicious ancestor served on committees whose duties were diplomatic,—as, e. g., to persuade W^m Andrewes "not to give up keeping the ordinarie;"¹ to

^{Diplomatist.} treat with Fowler concerning the sale of his interest in the mill;² to treat with Christopher

Todd concerning "y^e removeall of y^e mills on this side nearer y^e rocke & soe to make y^m breast mills;"³ "to treat with the Indians about some matters of complaint, as, planting where they ought not," "killing of hoggs, and stealing pease;"⁴ and again, pending the inquiry "whether a village might be settled neare the black Rock"—a notable promontory on the east side of the harbor and at the north end of The Cove—the site of a fort in the Revolutionary days,—"Brother Andrewes and Bro: Munson were desired to Treat with the Indians about the exchange of some Land."⁵ One other item: within two or three years after the English founded New Haven, some of the colonists purchased large tracts of land on both sides of the Delaware; but the hostility of the Swedes and the Dutch spoiled their attempts at trade and settlement. In 1654 there was a revival of the Delaware movement, and a committee was constituted, including Munson, "to whom," says the record, "any that are willing to goe may rapaire to be taken notice of." Early in the next year, between fifty and sixty men had found leaders of nerve and enterprise in Munson and Cooper, and attempted very resolutely to establish plantations at Delaware Bay, with a view to erecting eventually a separate common-

¹ 1648.² 1658.³ 1671.⁴ 1654.⁵ 1660.

wealth. The records of the General Court for 1655 contain the petition of the adventurers, with the conclusion, namely: "The Court returned, That having read and considered . . . some propositions presented by Thomas Munson and John Cooper, of New Haven, in the name and behalfe of sundrie persons of this jurisdiction and elsewhere, appearing as undertaker for the first planting of Delaware, . . . they are willing . . . to grant libertie to one or both of those magistrates mentioned to goe alonge with them. . . . And they purpose when God shall so enlarge the English plantations in Delaware as that they shall grow the greater part of the jurisdiction . . . the gouernor may be one yeare in one part and the next yeare in another," &c. Samuel Eaton, Francis Newman and Stephen Goodyear were disposed to have a hand in this high enterprise; but it was presently reported that thtee ships had "come to the Sweeds," difficulties loomed up formidably, and the great and superb project took its place with the splendid visions of Dante and Milton.

Executive.

It is time to direct attention to our pioneer's record as an executive officer, elected for lengthened periods of service. The modest though at that time important and respectable position of viewer of fences¹ need not detain us. Our Lieutenant was made plantation-commissary when that office was created at the beginning of King Philip's war.² He was chosen treasurer of the town for the unexpired term of Benjamin Linge.³ Three years he was elected lister or assessor.⁴ He served as Townsman

¹ 1641, 1644, 1660, 1663, 1667. ² 1675. ³ 1669. ⁴ 1649, 1668, 1678.

thirteen years,¹ first in 1656 and last in 1683; four
Townsman. years he was at the head of the board. It devolved upon him and his associates to take a census of the Quinnipiac Indians and of the acres of land allotted to them;² to change the location of the ferry to "the Red Rocke;"³ to encourage the erection of a village for the inhabitants at Stony River and South End (East Haven);⁴ to resurrect and revivify the Hopkins Grammar School⁵

—the Captain, as chief of the Townsmen, making
(Hopkins Grammar School.) a speech and Deputy-Governor Jones following;
 to consider whether health requires that burials upon The Green should cease,⁶—though it was yet one hundred and thirty-eight years before the place of burial was changed;⁷ to consider, again, whether the burying-place—"about 20 rod square"—ought not to "be fenced about and kept in a comely manner,"—but the matter had hindrance until 1690, when an order was issued that the place of burial "be fenced with a stone wall . . . in Ovall forme."

As a townsman Capt. Munson was desired⁸ (with others) to revise the report of a former committee on the *third*
division of common-land, "and allsoe to endeavor
("Third Division.") to purchase of y^e Indians such lands as are yet unpurchased." This division took place in 1680; the first and second had occurred in 1640.

The call to public meetings—religious, military and civic—during forty-three years, was by a drum beaten in the turret on the meeting-house, and often about some of the streets. The drummer was instructed "to
(Speech on the Bell.) observe y^e winde & beat so that y^e whole towne

¹ 1656, 1657, 1658, 1662, 1663 (First), 1668, 1675, 1676 (First), 1677, 1678 (First), 1681, 1682, 1683 (First). This office was known later as that of select-man.
² 1682. ³ 1668. ⁴ 1679. ⁵ 1677.

⁶ 1659. ⁷ 1797: stones removed, 1821. ⁸ 1678.

may heare." In 1681, more than two centuries ago, a bell was brought into the harbor,—of which the public records take notice as follows: "Capt. Thomas Munson on of y^e townsmen declared y^e occasion of this meeting was to Consider y^e buysines of y^e bell for y^e Townes use which was spoken of the last Towne meeting (which meeting was in April last) at which y^e Townsmen were desyred to Consider y^e matter how y^e bell might suit y^e Townes occasions and to veiw y^e Terrett of y^e meeting house, and to make returne to y^e Towne of theyer apprehensions in y^e Case: Now they had veiwed the s^d Terrett and doe judg y^e place may be fitted to hang it in for y^e use of y^e Towne, and allsoe being informed that y^e owner of y^e bell had sent to have it brought to ye Bay¹ in Joseph Allsupps vessell, and that y^e sayd Joseph had undertaken that y^e Bell should yet stay untill another returne, and it having Lyen soe long it would not be hansom for y^e Town to put it of, and therefore it wer necessary that now y^e Towne would Consider whether they will have it or not and how to raise y^e pay for it which will bee fourteen pound in money." It was voted that the bell be purchased, and that the townsmen have it properly hanged for use.

In 1678 our Captain had a hand *ex officio* in the delicate task of seating the Meeting-house. The men were to occupy one side of the house and the women the other, while the assignment of places to individuals was to have respect to civic dignity, military rank, age, wealth, social value, and so on. Mr. Jones reported that the committee had finished seating the men "and had begun y^e seating of women but found some dificulty in that matter." Ah yes,—that beautiful absence of "dificulty" in the seating of men! The

(Seating the
Meeting-
House.

¹ Massachusetts.

report alleged some "want of Roome," with reference to which "Divers desyred that y^e women might be seated as farr as seats would reach;" but it was cautiously replied "that y^e comitte had some reasons that were not meet to mention at this time." The ex-Deputy-Governor, who had risked his neck to defend Goffe and Whalley against Charles II., was mindful that a bird of the air would repeat every word of the discussion to the Hannahs and Elizabeths and Temperances; and the Townsman and Soldier who had faced Pequots, hostile New Yorkers under Andross, the embattled Dutch, and the terrible conspiracy under King Philip, could not forget that every whisper in the meeting would be telephoned to the "pink and white tyrants" named Joanna and Rebecca and Charity and Prudence; and Jones and Munson resolved upon a masterly discretion.

Judicial.

We pass now to Thomas Munson's judicial career.

At the age of fifty-one he was elected to the Plantation Court, a tribunal which was convened monthly "to hear and determine inferiour causes,"—if "Civill," "in valew not exceeding twenty Pounds;" if "Criminall,"

Plantation
Court. "when the punishment by Scripture Light, exceeds not stocking, and whipping," or "when the fine exceeds not five Pounds." The "fitt and able men" chosen for this service are styled "the ordinary judges." Those elected in 1662 were "Mr. John Davenport, Jun., Leiftenant John Nash, Ensigne Thomas Munson, and James Bishop." They were all twice re-elected, and they held office until Charles II. united the New Haven and Connecticut colonies.

It was not until after the Union that trial by jury was instituted. Lieut. Munson was a member of the first jury impanelled at New Haven,¹ and he was its fore-
First Jury. man. This was in October. He was also foreman of the juries in January and February following.

In 1666 the Lieutenant was designated as supernumerary Commissioner, to perform duty as a member of the monthly court, in a contingency.

Again, our pioneer was a member for many years of the supreme Court of Appeals, in that period, to wit, the General Court for the Jurisdiction,—at first that of New Haven colony, and after the Union, that of Con-
Court of Appeals. necticut. One of the six general functions of this high court, in the New Haven colony, was thus stated: "To hear and determine all causes, whether Civil or Criminall, w^h by appeal or complaint shall be orderly brought unto them, either from any inferior Court, or from any of the Plantations." In Connecticut colony a similar custom was in force.²

Legislative.

Let us now advance to contemplate Munson's career as a legislator.

In 1662 and 1663 he was elected "third man" or substitute deputy for four sessions of the General Court of New Haven colony, and at the third session he had occasion to take his seat and act. In 1664 he was elected
New Haven General Court. deputy for two sessions of the same body. The next year,—it will be remembered that there was a great deal of contention between the colonies in regard to a union,—Connecticut invited New Haven to send deputies to a General Assembly to be holden on the 15th

¹ 1665.

² 1683.

of March. "After much debate," says the record, "it was thought best to send," and Lieut. Thomas Munson and John Cooper were chosen to represent the community. That meeting of the Assembly was "put by," and a summons to another for April 20th being issued, "the former deputies declaring themselves not willing to goe," there was a new choice, though a minority objected to sending. There is no doubt that the unwritten history connected with these events would be very entertaining if we could recover it. Lieut. Munson was chosen "third man" for the October session of 1665, and he was elected to the same situation in 1668 and 1684.

In 1666 he was elected deputy to the General Assembly, and he served in this capacity twenty-four sessions, a very impressive testimony to the extraordinary esteem
Connecticut
General
Assembly. in which his legislative qualifications were held.

It appears, therefore, that he represented New Haven in the colonial legislatures twenty-seven sessions. He was in the Assembly nineteen consecutive sessions, with one exception during King Philip's war when he was engrossed with military duties. The town was represented by two persons each session. During thirteen years, 1669-1682, there were fifty-six individual elections of deputies, twenty-three of which fell to Munson and thirty-three to seven other men,—the former being elected more times than any three of his competitors,—while in every instance except one he was at the head of the delegation,—evincing his easy preëminence among the sterling citizens who filled this office in his time.

Be it observed that legislation in the age of Pioneer Munson was something else than atomizing rose-water. It was the mighty task of sagacious statesmen. Not theirs the vocation to conserve and administer a ready-made

¹ 1669-1678.

system. They had need to be colossal inventors in the sphere of government, for they were founders of new, unique, exemplary institutions. Liberty regulated by law was the beneficent object to be attained. To originate and elaborate a fabric of self-government—an expression of intelligence, wisdom and virtue, and to be maintained by intelligence, wisdom and virtue,—this, conducted in allegiance to the divine government, was the sublime task assumed by the colonial legislators. And this work, you should remark, might not be done at leisure, but amidst diversions and embarrassments springing from other unfriendly and often hostile communities,—the aborigines, the English and again the Dutch of New York, the Rhode Islanders, and we may as well add, (softly,) the English Crown.

Military.

There remains to be considered the military career of our versatile and indefatigable forefather.

A few explanations may be premised. The earlier musket¹ was a match-lock; "four fathom of match" was the allowance for each, and those performing guard-duty during the time of meeting on the Lord's-Days, were to "have their matches lighted." These muskets gave way gradually to flint-locks; five or six good flints fitted to each of these were the allowance. Pikes fourteen feet long were used by the infantry, and half-pikes, ten feet long, were used by "dragoones," *i. e.*, soldiers trained to perform duty either as infantry or cavalry. One in five was provided with this weapon.² The artillery were also drilled in its use. Every family was to furnish itself with a coat

¹ 1643.

² In Connecticut Colony, 1666.

of canvas "quilted with cotton woole," to serve as a "defence against Indian arrowes." The inspection of arms took place "at the meeting-house."¹

The "trained band," mentioned as early as April, 1640, included every male from sixteen to sixty years of age,² and comprised at first four squadrons, with four sergeants. Each man was equipped with a gun and a sword.³ There were at least six "traynings" every year. The "watch" was set by a sergeant "one hour after sunset,"⁴ and each of three pairs patrolled by turns. An alarm was sounded⁵ by a discharge of arms, with a cry of "Fire! fire!" or "Arme! arme!" according to the nature of the danger; the beating of the drum was added. One-fourth of the "trayned band"⁶ (and in times of special peril, all⁷) were to come to public worship "with their armes Compleat;" others, six only exempted, "are to bring their swords."⁸ While one sentinel stood on the meeting-house, another stood at the door, and two patrols walked the streets.⁹

In August, 1642, "bro: Mounson" was chosen Sergeant of the "Trayned Band," an office ranking perhaps with that of major in our late war. For nineteen years he is called by this title, and very busy years they must have been, with the trainings, the setting of night-watches, and attending to the guard on days of public meetings, and to the armed contingent among the worshipers,—to which were added special proceedings at frequent periods when dangers threatened. That his services as an officer were appreciated is evinced by a record under date of Sept. 10, 1649: "The Gouverner Informed the Court that Sarjant Munson is aboute goeing To Connecticote, to staye this winter: therefore the Court

¹ 1649. ² 1644. ³ 1644. ⁴ 1648. ⁵ 1640. ⁶ 1644. ⁷ June, 1644.

⁸ 1640. ⁹ 1653.

maye Consider whether it be safe for y^e towne to lett him goe: . . . the Court thought it not fitt that he should now goe: but desired the Gouverner to Informe them at Connecticote whom it Concernes, that it is not his neglect: but the Towne hinders him for publique respects."

At some court,¹ there was complaint of the Sergeant's "neglecting to give out the bills . . . in season, . . . whereby the watch could not be full one night." A fine of 6^s: 8^d: was ordered; but it was subsequently remitted. He was once² complained of for "taking away 3 hands from^m traynings to goe fetch hay." Some one had broken a promise to attend to it "while he was gonn to Moheigen." The motive was imperious,—it was the only chance, even with the help of "Canowes,"—but "he was fyned 2/8 each person." Again³ he was accused of taking some men from the company "upon A trayning day," and "said he would Answer it." He replied that "the thing was not True." The Pastor's "sellar" was to be "stoned," and he desired the Sergeant to "gitt helpe & Come & under-sett the house," on a certain day. "That will be training day," replied the officer. But Mr. Davenport said, "lett him gett men and he would freely paye the fine if the towne required it." The Sergeant alleged, moreover, that "he came not at the Company that morning." After some testimony was offered, "The Court told Sariant Munson that it seemed there was some mistake in the buisenes." These proceedings were in the "Particular Court." In the General Court, a month later,⁴ the Governor called on any who could establish the charge against the officer, "to speake; if not that then he may be Cleared & men be more wary how they expresse themselves: but none spake to Charge him but rather To Cleare him & so it was past by." A malcontent charged the Sergeant with "partial-

¹ 1649.² 1646.³ 1648.⁴ 1649.

litie"" in omitting to present the names of some members of his squadron who had come late to public worship and of others who "brought not their Armes." As a result of the examination, the accuser "was Tould he had not Carried it well: he should not have lett it passe till he was Complained of himselfe, and then in his distemper declare it: . . . but he said he was sorry for it: Ser-iant Munson was told y^t the Court Judged hime faithful in his Trust."

In 1654, His Highness, Oliver Cromwell, Lord Protector of England, Scotland and Ireland, desired the New England colonies to unite in an expedition against the "Dutch on Hudsons River," in reinforcement of his warfare against Holland. The New Haven colony raised a force, of which Munson was chosen first Sergeant; but before the levy got under way, news came that peace had been concluded.

When an "Artillery Company" was organized in 1645, our Sergeant was constituted a sergeant of that company, though without vacating his office in the Trained
(Artillery.) Band. He appears to have retained his connection with the artillery three years. Of the six "great guns" mentioned, three were located near the Meeting-house and three at the water-side.²

When a small Troope was raised in 1656, Thomas Munson was one of those who volunteered for that
(Troope.) form of service. The organization existed seven years.

In 1661 Sergeant Munson, with some misgiving, accepted the office of Ensign or color-bearer. After two years he desired to be released from the position, alleging his insufficiency, "especially in windy weather." At the
Ensign. end of the third year, complaint was made that

¹ 1648.

² How early, the writer cannot say.

the colors did not appear in the company. The Ensign reminded the public of his resignation, whereupon a word of reproof was murmured and the Ensign was immediately promoted to the office of Lieutenant.¹

This office was perhaps equivalent in rank to that of colonel in our late war. Munson served as Lieutenant twelve years. In 1673, while England and Holland were at war, the Dutch re-captured New York from the English. Connecticut colony took alarm, and appointed a "Grand Committee" for defence, with full power to commission officers, and to press men, horses, ships, arms, ammunition and provisions, and, in a word, to direct military proceedings in the best way they can. Munson was a member of this committee. It was ordered, moreover, that 500 dragoons be raised, and that if any forces should be sent out of New Haven County for the relief of another county, Munson should be Lieutenant of the same. Four days later the Grand Committee order that each dragoon have a horse, a sword, a musket, and a half-pike, and that Munson be Lieutenant of those raised in New Haven County. Three months and a half later,² the General Court resolves to send forth forces, by sea and land, against New York, and institutes "a standing Councill of Warr" with full power, and of this Council the Lieutenant was a member. Some forces sailed to the east end of Long Island and expelled the enemy from that region; but the "eminent dangers of warr" were mainly averted until peace was proclaimed.

We come now to the period of King Philip's war, just one hundred years before the war of the Revolution. We have only an occasional glimpse of Lieut. Munson's movements in this gloomy and horrid con-

(King
Philip's
War.)

¹ 1664.

² Nov. 26, 1673.

test with the barbarians; for the records are too meagre and indefinite.

July 2nd, 1675, a public meeting was "suddenly" called on receiving news that Philip, "a bloody man," had assaulted "seacunck" and "swansy" in Plymouth colony, while there had also been disturbance "in the Narragansett Country." Some houses had been burned, about thirty English slain, and Philip's savages were "engaging the Indians round about by sending locks of some English they have slain, from one place to another." The colony immediately took up arms. The forces raised at New Haven and other towns on the shore marched towards New London and Stonington. Our Lieutenant was of this army.

But the march was interrupted at Saybrook fort by tidings of the approach of another foe. The odious Andross, recently appointed governor of New York, was behaving in his office like a great, saucy, conscienceless boy whose chief ambition was to act the bully. He claimed and protested that his government extended to the Connecticut river. His bad spirit and his threatening messages made the Connecticut colony suspicious of him, even when, as on this occasion, he loudly professed the most innocent and benevolent intentions. With three vessels and a military force he arrived off Saybrook, July 8th,—alleging that his purpose was to defend the English colonists from the hostile savages; but a memorandum of his, found in the Secretary's Office fourteen years later, acknowledged that he went to the mouth of the Connecticut to take possession by surprise, "but was prevented by the opposition of two companies of men then lodged there ready to go out against the Indians." The proceedings of Andross in asserting his claims, and of the soldier-colonists in denying and combating them, were uncom-

monly picturesque. After five or six days Andross set sail, and Capt. Bull was instructed, July 16th, "to leaue Lnt. Munson to comand at Saybrooke wth some forces for the security of that place," while he himself should march "with as many forces as can be spared," towards New London and Stonington, to secure the frontier against the Indians.

In August the Indians on the Connecticut, above Northampton, began to evince hostility; in the latter part of the month, the Norwottogs at Hadley assaulted the plantations there. Major Treat marched from Connecticut with an army, August 31st, his route to Northampton being *via* Westfield.

September 19th, the following commission was issued to our gallant ancestor:

"To Thomas Munson, L^{nt}.

"These are in his Ma^{ties} Name to will and require you to take under your conduct the forces that now com from the County of New Haven; and them you are forthwith to lead up to Norwottock, and from thence up the River to our army, with whom you are to joyne in the defence of those plantations up the River; and you are to kill and destroy all such Indian enemies as shall assault you or the sayd plantations," etc. Norwottock (now Hadley) was the headquarters of the colonial army. There was a fort in the bend of the river at that point. Already Northfield and Deerfield had fallen before the enemy, and "the flower of Essex" had been massacred at Bloody Brook.

We can seldom individualize our ancestor amidst the smoke, the confusion, the multiform obscuration of Philip's war. Fifteen days later, the Agawams, under Sachem Wequogan, hitherto friendly, received two hundred and seventy of Philip's Indians, designing the next day,

October 5th, to burn Springfield. Toto, a Windsor Indian, discovered their secret, and during the night the news was sent by a swift horseman to Springfield and thence to Westfield and Hadley. The inhabitants of the doomed town betook themselves to the garrisons, and the six hundred warriors burned thirty-three houses and twenty-five barns and the mill. Treat's army, of which Munson's command formed a part, was at Westfield when Toto's disclosure was brought to that point, and it immediately marched for Springfield. Hubbard, in his *Indian Wars*, observes: "No doubt the whole town had been totally destroyed, but that a Report of the Plot being carried about over night, Major Treat came from Westfield time enough in a Manner for the Rescue, but wanting Boats to transport his Men, could not do so much Good as he desired." "He arrived there," however, says an eminent student of colonial history,¹ "in time to save the lives of the inhabitants, and a part of the town from the flames."

Five days after the Lieutenant was commissioned to conduct the New Haven County dragoons to the seat of war, the town of New Haven appointed a committee, including Munson, "to erect some fortification at the meeting-house," and, if deemed best, elsewhere. After the burning of Springfield, it was ordered, agreeably to the suggestion of the committee, that some houses be fortified, that at the four angles of the town-square superior fortifications be erected, and that there be a line of pallisadoes all about the town-square; each inhabitant was required to build four rods of this stockade. It was also ordered that all brush and underwood within half a mile of the pallisadoes be cut down and cleared away, that the shelter they afforded might not assist

¹ J. Hammond Trumbull, LL.D.

the Indians "to creep in a skulking manner neare y^e Towne."¹

It should be minded that Munson was a Townsman during these dark and bloody years, and thus most intimately related to all local proceedings connected with the war.

February 25th, 1676, Lieut. Munson was "appoynted Captain of N. Haven County souldiers, and commissioned accordingly." This was as high rank as had been attained by any citizen of New Haven, (about equivalent to general in our time,) and it remained the highest for seven or eight years longer.² May 15th, the General Court, in view of the strength of the enemy and the outrages they were committing, instituted "a standing army" of which "Captⁿ Tho: Munson was chosen Captⁿ for N. Haven County."

Portrait and Character.

We have now sampled the acts and events in Captain Munson's life as fully as our limitations permit. Is not his career a panorama which his posterity may contemplate with just pleasure and rational pride? James I., Charles I., Cromwell, Charles II., were the British sovereigns in his day: what favorite was elevated to a barony, an earldom or a dukedom, who was so rich in manly worth, whose essential nobility shone with so much lustre, whose public services were so various, so valuable and so monumental? Let every heart admire him, every lip

¹ The next March—"It was ordered that noe person shall plant any Indian corne within two rod of the stockaded line;" and, also, "y^t noe Indian bee suffered to com into y^e Towne to see the fortifications or take notis of any of our actings and motions."

² 1683.

praise him, every son and daughter emulate his resplendent example.

O that we had a portrait of him ! Well, I will paint one reflecting my conception of him. A light-complexioned man, with blue eyes and brown hair ; his nose straight and prominent ; in person, larger and taller than the average man, probably ; erect, methodical, prompt and dignified, as became his soldierly profession ; courtly, as became his judicial and legislative associations.

Passing from the outward appearance,—he was a man of irrepressible aspiration ; he was a man of superior intelligence,—and his fine autograph indicates cultivation ; he was a man of leonine courage ; a man of tireless energy ; a man whose judgment was preëminent,—the *solitaire* of his faculties ; a man whose versatility was wonderful,—perhaps not less exceptional than his judgment ; his integrity, so far as appears, was whiteness and brightness ; and, in fine, his place was on the side of the All-wise and the All-holy.

What remains ? This beautiful, historic Green is fretted with our worthy's footsteps as multitudinously as the aisles of autumnal forests with fallen leaves. Hundreds of times he walked hither with stately step to the monthly courts and the general courts for the plantation and the jurisdiction ; hundreds of times has he come with martial step to attend train-band, artillery and cavalry exercises ; 1500 times has he marched hither at evening to set the nightly watch ; 4000 times has he come over this ground, with a semi-devout aspect, to attend the Wednesday lecture ; 9000 times he has walked reverently, yet with something of soldierly energy, precision and stateliness in his gait, to the public worship on the Lord's-days. I cannot estimate his visits to this Green at fewer than 40,000.

His monument? New Haven is his monument, and Connecticut is his monument. There is not a stone in the foundations of this enchanting town which his hand has not touched, adjusted, embellished. Turn which way you will, go which way you will, you have only to brush off the dust and rub off the lichens to find "*MUNSON fecit.*"

But you, my dear kinsmen, are the living monument of Thomas Munson. It may be said with candor and sobriety that the descendants of this man exhibit a very high average of ability, uprightness, thrift and respectability. And you have made his name creditably known in your several residences from Hudson's Bay to the Gulf of Mexico and from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Aye, more: here and there across the nation you have caused his name to be inscribed in characters which are truly monumental, as in the case of Munson Street and Munson Park in this city; Munson's Hill in Virginia—covered with history six fathoms deep; Munson Hill—a post-village in Ohio; Munsonville in New Hampshire, Munsonville in New York, Munson's Station in Pennsylvania, the township of Munson in Illinois, and the township of Munson in Nebraska.

As we pass in grand review before the Captain, he will certainly contemplate very many and very much with approbation and applause; but no member of the procession will have merit enough, I had almost said half enough merit, to entitle him to measure arms with our greatest soldier and ablest civilian, Thomas the First.

POSTERITY OF THOMAS MUNSON.

The scope of this discourse includes a few glimpses of Thomas Munson's posterity.

His only son Samuel was by trade a shoemaker, with which that of a tanner was probably combined. He also owned and cultivated farming lands. His military rank was that of Ensign. Early in 1670 he joined with His Son Samuel. John Mosse, John Brockitt, Nathaniel Merriman, and twenty-two other New Haveners, in the founding of Wallingford, ten miles north-north-easterly. He was nearly twenty-seven, the age at which his father settled in New Haven. His daughter and eldest son had been born before his removal; the next five sons were born during the eleven years of his residence in Wallingford, notwithstanding which the elder three were born in New Haven, and only Joseph and Stephen in Wallingford; Caleb, and two younger sons who have no posterity, were born after the return to New Haven in 1681. Ens. Samuel, if we may trust the records, was the first schoolmaster at Wallingford;¹ he was for a time the public drummer; his residence during the early years was the place of public worship, for which some compensation was rendered. He was on the important committee to determine the rules for the allotment of the lands,² which were at first all common. At the age of thirty he was elected one of the Townsmen, and he was chosen to the same office the following year and also the last two years he was in Wallingford.³ One year he was chosen leather-sealer,⁴ another treasurer,⁵ two years auditor,⁶ two years recorder of lands,⁷ and five years assessor.⁸ In 1681, at the age of

¹ 1679. ² 1672. ³ 1673, 1674, 1680, 1681. ⁴ 1678. ⁵ 1680. ⁶ 1676 ?
1679. ⁷ 1679, 1681. ⁸ 1677-1681.

thirty-eight, he was chosen recorder, assessor and townsman, indicating that had he remained in Wallingford he would have been employed very extensively in public service. The first year of Philip's war, he was commissioned Ensign of the Wallingford Trained Band; next month the colonial Council appointed him and another "to sign bills;" and in March following, he and another wrote a letter to the Council in respect to "garrison-houses, and watches and wardes." In 1679 "The Towne made Choyce of Eñ Sam^{ll} Munson & Eliasaph Preston to goe up to the Hon^{le} Gournier . . . to inquire y^e Reason why they are deprived of Comission maiestraycy among them." After his return to New Haven, he was chosen fence-viewer,¹ constable,² and assessor;³ and during five years, probably ten, beginning with 1683, he and his brother-in-law, Joseph Tuttle, were elected searchers and sealers of leather. For one year, and apparently longer—not unlikely three years, our Ensign was Rector of the Hopkins Grammar School. He died⁴ before he was fifty, surviving his father less than eight years. (The Captain's age was seventy-three.) We may well lament the premature decease of our second ancestor, whose promise and whose performance also had been so admirable. Let it be distinctly recognized, cousins, recognized with veneration, that Ensign Samuel was the common ancestor of all the descendants of Capt. Thomas who bear the Munson name.

We are now to glance at the footprints of seven sons of the Ensign—grandsons of the Captain. Thomas, John, Theophilus and Stephen dwelt in New Haven; Samuel, Joseph and Caleb in Wallingford. It may be remarked

¹ 1686.² 1692.³ 1692.⁴ Between Dec. 26, 1692, when he was elected constable, and March 2, 1693, when the inventory of his estate was dated.

that all these brothers, whatever their trades or other employments, had ample possessions in land.

1. Samuel, of Wallingford, Town Clerk and Recorder thirty-nine years.¹ I have examined several thousand pages in his handwriting. In conveyances his vocation is

Grandson
Samuel.

said to be that of "Planter." His military title, like that of his father, was Ensign. He served as treasurer, auditor, school-committee, four years, lister, four years, and selectman, six years. He was also chosen to six minor offices, involving thirteen years of service. There is record of yet another public appointment, in September, 1704: "The town chose Samuëll Monson to look after the yong people at the lore eand of the meting house." His age at death was seventy-two.

2. Thomas, of New Haven. He was fourteen years old at the death of the Captain, and was the only grandchild who participated in the distribution of the old

Grandson
Thomas.

gentleman's estate. This partiality was most likely out of respect to his name. To him were given his grandfather's "armes & am̄nition," his tools, a colt, "6 acres of land in the . . . Governors quarter, & y^t parcell of meadow lying att the red banke," with some other things. According to the designation in deeds, Thomas was by vocation a "husbandman." He was chosen to a minor office at the age of twenty, and to another three years later, to which he was three times re-elected; but his official career was inconspicuous. At the age of twenty-eight² he sold his place, the homestead of his father and grandfather, on Grove and Temple streets, to his brother John, and then or presently removed to lands on the First and Second Brooks, and on Sacket's Brook. This farm, lying on the west side of the

¹ 1711-1740.

² 1709.

Quinnipiac, was a landmark much employed in describing places in that region. Thomas bought three and one-half acres, bounded easterly on Sacket's brook, of Jonathan Edwards, that renowned metaphysician and divine whom Robert Hall declared to be "the greatest of the sons of men." In 1716, when the project of locating Yale College in New Haven was under contemplation, a number of citizens thought to encourage the enterprise by donating forty acres of land to its treasury; Thomas gave two acres and Theophilus one. This "Colledge lott" was "about half a mile Northerly of Thomas Munsons," and a Wallingford record describes Munson as "of Newhaven north village." There are indications in some of his conveyances that Thomas was a humorous man. He lived to the age of seventy-five.

3. Capt. John, of New Haven, who, taken all in all—his versatility, the variety of his activities and achievements, and the number, value and eminence of his public services being regarded,—possibly excels any other descendant of Thomas Munson. In documents, for twenty years, he is called a "maultster", or "malster;" and from 1722, a "miller." In 1716, during the reign of George I., he bought a new corn-mill, located on Beaver-Pond Brook; at a later period it had a bolting department. Ten years later, he and others built a saw-mill "upon the West River above Sperrys farme;" he owned at least a quarter interest. Nine years later, he bought a one-third interest in Todd's mill, a lineal descendant of the first mill in New Haven; it was on Mill river, opposite Mill-Rock, and at this period, a "Bake-house" was a part of the property. When he became a miller, he sold his place on Grove and Temple streets to Theophilus, and resided eastward of the West-Rock, where his business was. He had a "malt-house" there

Grandson
John.

also. In 1712, he obtained a grant of land for a wharf. He was key-keeper, grand-juror, constable, two years, collector, two years, leather-sealer, six years, assessor, two years, Townsman, nine years, Deputy to the General Assembly, ten sessions. At the age of thirty-six¹ he had won the title of Captain, and from that date for more than ten years he was annually elected Moderator for all the town meetings of the year. This fact has a unique and brilliant look. Capt. John was chosen the first Steward of Yale College, an office which he filled three years.² The first attempt to establish regular communication between New Haven and Hartford was in 1717, when the General Assembly gave Capt. John the exclusive right of transporting persons and goods between the two places for seven years. This franchise was granted in consideration of his having been at "the cost and charge to set up a waggon to pass and transport passengers and goods." "On the first Monday of every month, excepting December, January, February, and March," he was to "set forth with the said waggon from New Haven, and with all convenient despatch drive up to Hartford, and thence in the same week return to New Haven." There was a fine of forty shillings for infringing on Munson's privilege. This stage is believed to have run at intervals of two weeks,—doing better than the statute required. It remains to add that John Munson was a Deacon of the First Church; we do not know the limits of his term of service, but he was in office in October, 1742, and December, 1748. The last record which mentions him as living is February 6, 1749; he was then seventy-six years of age.

4. Capt. Theophilus, of New Haven, whose prominence among the seven brothers was next to that of John. His

¹ 1709.

² 1718-1721.

dealings in real-estate were extensive, and he was decidedly successful in acquiring property. By trade he was a "locksmith." He held four minor offices by fifteen elections. He was also constable, collector and treasurer, tithingman, three years, lister, three years, and thirty-three times at least he was elected sealer of weights and measures. He was Townsman eight years, and Deputy to the General Assembly three sessions. In 1712 he was on a town-committee to assist in laying out the undivided land, and nine years later was on another committee to prepare plans for the sixth division. He and five others, in 1717, were granted an area of "the flats" eight rods wide, "beginning at the end of the highway leading down by Cap^t. Prouts to the water side: provided that the sd Grantees build a wharfe forty Rods long . . . and twenty foots wide . . . within eight years." We note as a curiosity that the price of five acres purchased by Theophilus, in 1708, was a "neagro woman Called Hagur," together with five pounds, twelve shillings. This prosperous man resided forty-five years on College street, at the corner of Wall, where Prest. Dwight resides, and he died at the age of seventy-two.

5. Ens. Joseph, of Wallingford,—by trade a "joyner." He occupied two inferior offices by six elections. He was also grand-juror, an assessor three years, and a Townsman in 1713. His residence is located by a record made in 1716: "The lower end of the town¹ begins at Joseph Munsons." He was only fifty-two years old when he died.

6. Sergt. Stephen, of New Haven,—by trade a "locksmith" and also "gunn smith." He was chosen to three minor offices by eighteen elections; he was also constable, collector, two years, assessor, two years, and a Townsman in 1731 and 1733. It is in evidence

¹ Village.

that he had a "Negro man" whom he sold. You may recall the thought of Mr. Everett: "The faults of our fathers were the faults of the age in which they lived; their virtues were their own." And we do well to ruminate on a remark of Coleridge, to wit: "A dwarf sees farther than the giant when he has the giant's shoulder to mount on." Sergt. Stephen's home for sixty-six years was at the northwest corner of Grove and State streets. He died at the age of eighty-nine. He had been blind for some years.

7. Caleb, of Wallingford,—by trade a "weaver." He was chosen grand-juror, tithingman, school-committee, and in 1743 first Selectman. At the end of the year the citizens "Voted that they would except the Select Mens Account Read to them in General without hearing the Particulars or having any further examination." This is a novel record, and highly complimentary to Caleb. The board was re-elected, with our relative at the head of it. This seventh son of the Ensign died at the age of eighty-three.

The last survivor of these seven brothers died one hundred and nineteen years ago, seven years before the Revolutionary war. The four who lived in this town were all members of the church which worships in this house; the early records of the Wallingford church are not extant.

We are nearly at the end of our tether.

In the next generation, the fourth, Solomon removed to New Jersey and Ephraim to Massachusetts. In the fifth, Obadiah the Second removed to Pennsylvania, Timothy and Caleb to Vermont, Dr. Austin, Joseph and Benjamin to New York, Hermon to Ohio, and Cornelius to the British army. In the sixth generation the migrations from Connecticut were numerous.

A letter from Munson's Hill, Va., has the following :
"I have heard my grandfather say that he had heard his father' say that he knew New Haven when more than half the signs on business-houses bore the name of Munson."
This ancient witness was forty-one years old when the battle of Bunker Hill was fought.

A Few Names.

Among deceased Munsons who have been notably prominent in business were Capt. Joseph, merchant, and Dr. Æneas, Jr., merchant and banker of New Haven ; Reuben, a manufacturer of combs in New York City, and Israel, a merchant of Boston, who "was a distinguished benefactor of humane and literary institutions." Alfred, of Utica, was the first manufacturer of buhr mill-stones in this country ; he engaged widely in transportation enterprises ; he invested extensively and profitably in the coal-fields of Pennsylvania,—and became a millionaire. Norman C., of Boston, deserves, by the boldness of his undertakings and the greatness of his achievements, to stand at the head of our business-men. His record in the construction of railroads is an astonishment, while the filling of the Back Bay region at Boston was the greatest contract ever executed in Massachusetts. The equipment for the work embraced twenty-five miles of track, fourteen locomotives, two hundred and twenty-five cars and two steam excavators. For seventeen years he ran his trains and excavators night and day, most of the time. He became a millionaire by this contract.

A good number of our race have been educated in colleges. Yale has graduated twenty-one of our blood and name ; sixteen took the academic course, and five a profes-

¹ Timothy.

sional. Among our divines was Samuel, the missionary, who laid down his life while on a tour of inquiry among the cannibals of Sumatra. The ministers in our own age, include three college-presidents, several men with the title of D. D., and other doctors of divinity unfurnished with the title. There are lawyers and judges on the roll of the family; one of them has been attorney-general of the United States and minister to England. But the Munson profession for four generations has been that of medicine. And the numerous catalogue is of respectable quality. Eneas the First, whom the elders designate as "old Dr. Munson," was probably our most distinguished professional man. He practiced medicine seventy years. When the medical department of Yale College was instituted, in 1813, he was chosen professor of *materia medica* and botany. "It is undoubtedly true," says Dr. Bronson, who is rather fond of disparagement, "it is undoubtedly true that in the matter of professional learning and scientific information, he ranked with the eminent men of his country." "Dr. Munson was a pioneer," says Dr. Ives, "in the science of Botany;" he was "unrivalled in his knowledge of indigenous *materia medica*, and in *materia medica* generally probably his superior was not to be found in Europe. . . . To Dr. Munson," he continues, "the faculty of this country were more indebted for the introduction of new articles and valuable modes of practice than to any other individual." . . . He "studied Chemistry with zeal and made many chemical experiments." For a time "he was looked upon as a master of the science, and no one in the vicinity was as well acquainted with Mineralogy. . . . He was looked up to by all his medical brethren on all subjects relating to Chemistry and Pharmacy." Thus far Prof. Ives. Prof. Silliman, sen., was accustomed, in his earlier lectures, to

speaking of Dr. Munson with deference. He was above the average size, erect and dignified. Seven sessions he was deputy to the General Court. Dr. Eneas has been much celebrated as a wit and humorist. A great number of his brilliant explosives are still extant. You might perhaps search history in vain to find another so eminent in the gravest pursuits who said and did so many things which were supremely amusing. He was gathered to his fathers in 1826.

That a great number, a very surprising number, of our ancestors participated in the Revolutionary war is an embellishment of our name. Nearly all espoused the patriot-cause, though a very few remained loyal to the Crown. Some of the latter migrated to Canada. Major William Munson, of this city, shall be a sample of our noblemen in that great era. His youngest daughter, at the age of ninety-five, participates in our festivities to-day. Major William, who was a first cousin of Benedict Arnold's first wife, was a lieutenant—from November, 1775—in Arnold's expedition to Quebec. There is extant an "Accompt" of the baggage lost by our officer "att the Retreat from Quebeck the 6th of May 1776." He was in command at Dobbs Ferry when Andre was executed as a spy. He was discharged in 1783. His residence in this city was on the northeast corner of State and Fair streets. At the time of the British Invasion, in July, 1779, the house was deserted, Mrs. Munson having gone to Wallingford. Her mother, Mrs. John Hall, who lived directly opposite, on the corner of Fair and Fleet streets, went over to the Major's, Monday afternoon, July 5th, to see if there were any valuables which should be made secure. While she was on the steps a British officer came along, drew his sword, with which she feared he was about to cut her throat, clipped a string of gold beads

from her neck, and then—gallant gentleman that he was—took the silver buckles from her shoes. The next morning, presumably, as the fleet sailed away, an eighteen-pound shot, after perforating the Sabin house, passed under the sill of a window at which Mrs. Munson usually sat when sewing. The ball crossed the room and struck the back of the capacious fireplace, when its force was spent. It was conceived to have come five miles.¹ The Major had the ball replaced where it struck and fastened there. Our venerable cousin, Mrs. Grace Munson Wheeler, has many times seen her father, when visitors were present, take up the tongs and brush the soot from the ball, to show it to them. That historic missile I now hold in my hand. For thirty-three years our veteran was a Surveyor of the Customs,—his first commission bearing the autograph of both Washington and Jefferson. When LaFayette visited New Haven, more than forty years after the war,² he promptly recognized the Major and embraced him. The latter's grand-daughter, who is present with us, was then a school-girl, and she remembers going to the Franklin House and stealing an opportunity to touch the illustrious Frenchman's coat. Munson's certificate as a member of the Society of the Cincinnati was signed by Washington.

The Typical Munson.

Shall I now portray the average, the representative, the typical Munson? You reply something about a conundrum. But conundrums are sometimes solved.

He is of rather light complexion, with eyes having some degree of blueness, and hair brownish or of some related shade; his nose is rather prominent, and pretty straight,—

¹ Probably not.

² 1824.

this, by the way, is his most characteristic feature ; in person he is seldom small, though his height, weight and form are most varied and uncertain,—not unfrequently tall, yet frequently not tall, but, as he ripens in years, exhibiting aldermanic prosperity in the equatorial regions ; a vigorous animal, enduring a great deal of hard work and surviving a good deal of abuse,—and dying at the age of seventy-three.

The typical Munson has individuality—is more like himself than like anybody else,—has withal a habit of *thinking* and of respecting his own views ; he has a liberal allotment of will-power ; he is unsatisfied unless occupying a plane above that occupied by the majority of his fellow-mortals, yet is not ambitious to soar to dizzy heights ; he is intelligent and well-informed ; he devotes himself assiduously to his vocation ; he is provident, not lavish,—spending and giving with fidelity for worthy purposes, and most likely on occasions of highest worthiness, giving bountifully ; he is decidedly practical—with little ideality,—is neither poet nor artist, nor visionary in practical affairs ; he is conservative, not in haste to exchange the tried for the untried,—yet is he sometimes inventive and adventurous ; he has a strain of humor and playfulness in his composition ; he is an upright man and a religious man—loyal to the Son of God and to the great First Cause.

Concluding Generalizations.

Of riffraff bearing our label there is extremely, infinitely little. Our people are respectable farmers, excellent mechanics, thriving store-keepers, sagacious merchants, enterprising and prosperous manufacturers,—and they are evermore desired by their fellow-citizens to

accept of public trusts. Those who become scholars are scholarly, and our professional men are a credit to our name. Even the Munson artist has been seen, though a *rara avis*. French, author of *Art and Artists in Connecticut*, says of Lucius, born 1796: "As a portrait painter he not only gave good promise for the future, but had already accomplished much. His pictures show good taste, and skill in drawing. He was a careful student, and his work was free and bold." He died at Turk's Island in his twenty-seventh year. We have also, in the author of *Woman in Sacred Song*, a cousin who is an accomplished composer of music, as well as a mellifluous singer.

In politics, an immense majority of our people are Republican; yet the cream of the Democratic party is Munsonian. In religion, the first four or five generations were Congregationalists, perhaps to a man; now, besides Congregationalists, we have very many Methodists, a considerable number of Episcopalians, some Baptists, some Universalists, a few Presbyterians, and others.

We justly recognize, my kinsmen, that there is nothing in our make-up for goslings like Oscar Wilde to take hold of, nothing for the "Salvation Army," nothing for socialistic disorganizers, nothing for religionless materialists; and that we go to the almshouse only for beneficence, and to the criminal court only to act as judge, jury, witness to the truth, or advocate of the cause that is just.

We none of us, my favorites, represent Thomas Munson with any completeness and accuracy; the primitive type has been modified by seven, or eight, or nine marriages; and it has been modified also by the general changes which have affected society—changes in light, in belief, in customs, in institutions, in material conditions; and it makes one's heart stand still to think of the further modifications which may take place in the next two hundred

and fifty years. But let every Munson have the clear conviction that he has an ideal in Captain Thomas which is worthy of his daily contemplation, and let him have the wisdom to find inspiration and guidance and cheer in our first father's great and bright example.

THE POEM,

BY ERWIN L. BARBER.

[The strength of the hills and the fire of the old Danish seas are in the poem whose conclusion is given below. The prefatory lines are from a versified note to the editor.]

Last evening I was somewhat rash
To promise my poetic trash ;
This morning I am much inclined
To tell you I have changed my mind.
Still, one of the true Munson race
Should never act the double face ;
So with a Loyal heart and will
The foolish promise I fulfill.

Two hundred fifty years have passed away
Since he whose name we celebrate to-day
First landed on these shores : the wonders wrought
No words can tell—it passes human thought ;
The world has made more progress since that day
Than in the ages that had passed away.
'Tis grand to claim descent from pioneers
Whose names and deeds have linked so many years ;
Of men who founded cities, formed the State,
Made laws, built churches, all that's good and great,—
And pride of birth from such a noble race
Is grandest pride that ever found a place
Within the human breast. And now we claim,
Who gather here to celebrate the fame
Of Captain Munson, patriot, pioneer,
The pride of lineage—and we revere
His name and memory ; and let us strive
To emulate his virtues—ever keep alive
The sacred record of the good he wrought,—
And in the future treasure up the thought
That every life with good or ill is fraught—
And that THE TRUE WILL LIVE—the false will come to
naught.

EXERCISES IN LINCOLN RINK.

Chairman.

MR. SAMUEL L. MUNSON, of New York.

Vice Chairmen.

HON. AUGUSTUS W. MUNSON, of Ohio.

MR. MILES C. MUNSON, of Washington, D. C.

1. Overture—Orchestra.
2. Prelude. Chairman Samuel L. Munson.
3. Grace said. Rev. Francis M. Munson, Marion, O.
4. Dinner.
5. Presentation of Mrs. Grace Munson Wheeler, of New Haven.
6. "The State of Connecticut." Rev. Joseph O. Munson, New Milford, Conn.
7. "The Clergy of the Munson Family." Rev. Francis M. Munson, Marion, Ohio.
8. "The Farmers of the Munson Family." Mr. Edwin Loyal Barber, Benson, Vt.
9. "The Doctors of the Munson Family." Dr. Titus Munson Coan, New York, N. Y.
10. "The Munsons who were loyal when and where loyalty cost something." Mr. Miles C. Munson, Washington, D. C.
11. "The Lawyers of the Munson Family." Hon. Loveland Munson, Manchester, Vt.
12. "The Artists of the Munson Family." *Response*—An original vocal solo, entitled "Woodland Warblings." Mrs. Eva Munson Smith, Springfield, Ill.
13. "The Portsmouth Race of Munsons." Mr. Joseph T. Munson, Denison, Texas.

14. "The Munsons who have 'gone west.'" Dr. Augustus W. Munson, Kenton, O.
15. "The Soldiers of the Munson Family." Col. Gilbert D. Munson, Zanesville, O.
16. "The Munsons of the United States Navy." Commander Clarence E. Merriman, Navy Yard, Boston.
17. "The Daughters of the Munson Family." John A. Amundson, Esq., New York.
18. "Our Transatlantic Cousins." Rev. Myron A. Munson.
19. Singing—"My country, 'tis of thee."

EVENING.

Social gathering in Lincoln Rink.

PRELUDE,

BY SAMUEL L. MUNSON.

By request of your Committee of Arrangements, I have the honor to call this convocation of Munsons from labor to refreshment; to welcome you to this, the first Thanksgiving Dinner to which the family of Thomas Munson have been invited, as a whole, for more than two centuries. It is indeed a notable event, and we trust that it may be made the occasion of a renewing of fraternal bonds, constituting us in more than name a reunited family.

We will unite with the Rev. Francis M. Munson in asking for the blessing of the Almighty, the God of the Puritans, and of the Puritans' children, upon this assembly.

PRESENTATION.

Thirty years ago, it was not infrequently noted in the press of the day that some soldier of the Revolution had recently passed away; but each succeeding year the number of these

notices grew less, until to-day no one remains to tell of the sacrifice and heroism of those "times which tried men's souls," in which he himself had a part.

"Their bones are dust,
And their good swords rust ;
Their souls are with the saints, we trust."

But although these heroes have passed to their reward, leaving as a sacred trust to all true Americans the defense of the liberties they won, we have the rare good fortune to have in our family, and present here to-day, one whose life commenced almost with the establishment of the Constitution of the United States. She remembers with a pride which we, her kinsmen, also share, that her father was one of the officers on guard, whose vigilance frustrated the attempt of Benedict Arnold to transfer to the British the control of the Hudson River and thus strike a deadly blow at the cause of American Independence. In her hospitable home are to be seen priceless documents bearing the signatures of Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Jackson, Knox and Hancock, showing that her immediate relatives have been held in high regard by the fathers of the Republic. When President Monroe visited New Haven, of the eighteen officers of the Revolutionary Army presented to him, Major William Munson, her father, had the honor of being the first. She is enjoying the evening of a long and eventful life. She has seen the old Thirteen, feeble and poor, but aspiring and resolute, become an imperial Republic. She has listened to the angry echoes of three wars to which she has loyally sent her relatives, and from and through which has come, we hope, enduring peace. She is proud of her lineage, and she has an interest in whatever pertains to the Munson name. She has taken an interest in this Reunion, and it is a great satisfaction to her that she is able to be with us to-day. Members of the Munson race, I have the honor and the pleasure of presenting to you, our kinswoman,

MRS. GRACE MUNSON WHEELER.

As the venerable lady arose and bowed the entire assembly arose and greeted her with warm applause.

TOASTS AND RESPONSES.

The State of Connecticut: May she ever continue to prize and cherish the principles of her Puritan founders.

Rev. J. O. Munson, of New Milford, Conn., responded :

I esteem it a great honor to be called upon to respond for the commonwealth of Connecticut, in whose founding our honored ancestor took so prominent a part, and to whose best interests he devoted his active life. By the story of that life, which we heard this morning, I am more than ever impressed with the fact that "there were giants in those days."

The amazing extent and variety of the achievements of our forefathers is only equalled by the excellence and enduring quality of their work. Connecticut has the honor of being the first commonwealth on the continent organized under a free Constitution of her own making. This Constitution secured to her practical independence during her colonial history, and at a later period furnished the model after which Roger Sherman designed the draft of the Constitution of the United States.

The speaker briefly adverted to the record of Connecticut in the War of the Revolution and the Great Rebellion, traced her wonderful accomplishments in material progress, eulogized her devotion to the cause of education, and closed with a welcome to the brothers and sisters of the Munson Family who have come to this great Reunion, trusting that they will have good reason to be proud of the Old Homestead.

(7.) In the ancient days when New Haven was founded, the Minister was the leading man in the community, not only spiritually but politically. This union of church and state has been dissolved, but the hand of decay is on any community where the church is not revered. A Puritan family like ours must needs have many of these defenders and advocates of the faith. It is eminently fitting that we toast The Clergy of the Munson Family.

Rev. Francis M. Munson, of Marion, Ohio, responded :

A goodly number of our family, said the reverend gentleman, have entered the sacred ministry. Some, that of the

Congregational Church with which our forefathers were identified; others, the ministry of the Methodist and Episcopal Churches; and there have not been lacking those who spent their lives as missionaries in heathen lands. It is from families like ours, possessing good common sense, a determined purpose and unflagging industry, that the ministry of the Church is best recruited.

(8.) In these days of gigantic manufacturing and commercial enterprise, we are apt to lose sight of the fact, that greater than these as a factor in the prosperity of the country is the agricultural interest. Uncontaminated by the temptations and vicious surroundings of the city, with time in which to think out the problems of the day unhindered, the judgment of the farmer probably comes nearer to the proper solution of any question presented, than that of any other class of our citizens. They are for law and order every time, and if this Republic survives the battle with ignorance and demagoguery which is inevitable in the future, it will be because the farmers hold the balance of power. They nursed the feeble Puritan colonies into strength, and when the Revolutionary struggle was inaugurated, it was the farmer who, at Lexington, "fired the shot heard round the world," and at Bunker Hill demonstrated that right is greater than might. Mr. E. L. Barber will respond for The Farmers of the Munson Family.

Mr. Barber responded :

He ascribed his success in life to his Munson blood, and explained how he came to have it. One hundred years ago last Friday, there was born among the hills of Litchfield County, a girl of the Munson lineage. With the spirit of the old Pioneer, in early life she went to Vermont, then called by Connecticut people the New State or New Connecticut, as a pioneer school teacher. While there she made a conquest of a student of Middlebury College, became his wife and ultimately the mother of the speaker. We were told this morning, he said, that the Danish sea-kings of old were our ancestors, those fair-haired, blue-eyed, sturdy men, who were fit to brave any and all things. If I have achieved any success in life it is because I have felt the blood of those valiant men of old tingling in my veins.

(9.) Our Historian says that the Munson Family seems to "run" to the profession of medicine, a wary and a wise choice. For a woman may criticise her pastor; she may accuse her grocer of selling oleomargarine for butter; she may indulge in a curtain lecture in the privacy of home; but she is filled with indignation should any one attempt to disparage her physician. Dr. Coan will respond for The Doctors of the Munson Family.

Dr. Titus Munson Coan, of New York, said :

My place of birth was perhaps more remote than that of any member of the Munson clan here present: for I was the son of a missionary in the Hawaiian Islands. We had no cousins there, the missionaries coming for the most part of independent families, and we missed their presence greatly. When I came to the United States, my first care was to cultivate the privileges of cousinship. It is a very pleasant task for I had the arrears of many years to make up. It is gratifying to know that so many of our tribe have devoted their lives to the art of healing. In the fourth generation, Dr. Daniel of Yale College, 1726; in the fifth generation, Austin, Walter and Eneas, and since the third generation, many others of our name have spent their days in remedying human ailments. Among our numerous and excellent physicians in the ninth generation, I may name the late Dr. Franklin A. Munson, who exhibited great promise as a specialist. The apparatus which he invented to demonstrate the Errors of Refraction in the Human Eye has excited much admiration. I trust that the Munson doctors will continue to deserve that writer's praise of the character of the doctor, who said "that he brings air and cheerfulness into the sick-room and often, though not as often as he wishes, healing."

(10.) The Munsons who lived on the picket-line at the opening of the Rebellion, and who were loyal to the flag, when and where loyalty cost something. I call upon Mr. Miles C. Munson, of Washington, D. C.

From the first inception of the great struggle between the two sections, my father took strong ground for the maintenance of the Union, voting for the Union candidate to the Virginia convention which passed the ordinance of Secession, while my father-in-law was just as active in promoting the principles of the opposing party, which he sincerely believed

to be in the right. This was the universal experience of families along the border, in the fratricidal war which followed. My oldest brother was in the Southern army which surrendered at Vicksburg.

Extracts from the Speaker's Diary.

May 20, 1861—"My father received a message from the President, requesting him to call at the White House. Gen. Scott was present at the interview."

June 20—"Frequent movements of soldiers in the direction of Bull Run. An interesting incident occurred to-day. A Connecticut regiment, marching to join Gen. Tyler's command, passed by my door. My little three-years-old boy stood on the porch and waved a flag as they were passing. With one accord the soldiers took off their caps and gave three rousing cheers."

July 24—"My house is now between the lines. To-day, during my absence, a smart skirmish took place. A squad of Southern soldiers posted themselves behind the barn and were firing at the Union soldiers in a thicket near by. The house, being directly in range, was frequently struck and the windows shattered. Two spent balls fell upon the porch, which my little boy secured. Towards night, taking advantage of a momentary lull in the firing, my wife took the five-months-old baby in her arms and leading the little boy, started across the fields to a neighbor's house. Both parties refrained from firing until she was out of range."

August 15—"My brother, D. O. Munson, had a narrow escape to-day. Two companies of Union soldiers were encamped on the place, near the dwelling house. He was called to Alexandria on business, and made the journey on horseback. During his absence the rebels made an attack in considerable force, and the two companies were dispersed,—a number being killed and wounded and taken prisoners. As he was returning, just after sunset, unaware of the change of occupants, his attention was directed to a company of soldiers about twenty rods distant, stretched across the road in front of the dwelling house, who looked very unlike those he had left in possession in the morning. Two or three shots were fired over his head, apparently. He waved a white handkerchief to indicate his peaceful character, but his horse became restive and started to go in the opposite direction, when a whole volley was fired and the horse dropped dead without a struggle. While in the act of extricating himself from the body of the fallen animal one ball struck the ground by his foot, covering it with sand. He ran a distance of fifteen or twenty rods, the balls whistling about his ears, when he concealed himself behind a clump of bushes. A neighbor, who saw the horse next day, informs me that there were fourteen balls in his body. Two balls had passed through my brother's hat, his coat was riddled with bullets, and he did not receive a scratch. After dark he made his way to Bailey's Cross-roads, was taken prisoner by the Union Picket Guard there, and sent to Alexandria and released the next day."

Sept. 6—"My father informs me of the great rapidity with which his crop of potatoes was harvested. A brigade of Union soldiers, who had been engaged in the recent battle around Bull Run, and had eaten nothing but hard tack for three weeks, lighted upon the field of potatoes, and in less than one hour the whole crop, about 400 bushels, was transferred to the soldiers' haversacks. Each one, as he marched along, was ravenously munching his raw potato."

Sept. 25, 1863—"A party of Guerrillas, about forty in number, commanded by Mosby, under the cover of the darkness and by unfrequented paths, made their way through the Union lines, and surrounded my father's house about midnight, after the family had retired to rest. Their purpose was to capture my father. My sister, now Mrs. Taylor, with quick woman's wit, devised a plan to throw them off the track. My brother, heretofore mentioned, had been sick in bed for a week, and under the doctor's care. My father was in bed, in a room adjoining the parlor where the guerrillas were assembled. The door of his room was partly open, and for some unaccountable reason that room was overlooked in the hasty search. The guerrilla chief said to my sister that he desired to see Mr. Munson; she replied, "He is up stairs, sick, in bed." He directed a surgeon belonging to his party to examine the sick man and report whether he could be removed or not. He soon reported in the affirmative. In the meantime, some of the party, who had remained outside, collected all the horses of any value, five in number, and having assisted my brother to mount one of them, they all left the premises. When near Falls Church, about two miles distant, Mosby, who was riding by the side of my brother, remarked, "Mr. Munson, I supposed you to be a much older man." My brother replied, "I suppose your object was to capture my father, and you have taken me by mistake." It was then too late for them to rectify their mistake. When about seven miles from my father's, they ran into a strong Union picket force, who received them with a volley. Mosby gave the command for each one to look out for himself. In the confusion my brother got separated from the command and escaped. He passed the remainder of the night in the woods, and reached home by a circuitous route next day. Truly, he seems to have a charmed life."

(11.) When some one said of the lawyers, that they halve our pleasures and double our sorrows, he could not have had in mind the members of our Family; for while there are good lawyers and bad lawyers, the Munson lawyers all are good, and one of the best is the Hon. Loveland Munson, of the grand old State of Vermont.

I understand that the class of the Family for which I am called upon to speak is very small in number, and I conclude from that fact that only a very short speech is required of me. I was not at all surprised when our friend who presides on

this occasion remarked to me, a short time since, that the legal profession did not seem to have been a very popular one in our family. It was hardly to be expected that a Family so modest and retiring, and so little given to talk, should furnish many recruits to a profession in which the family traits must always leave them at some disadvantage.

It is possible that some of you, having in mind the old but very unjust joke about lawyers, may consider it a credit to the Family that there are so few of us. Perhaps it ought to be considered quite as much a credit to the Family if we could be assured—as perhaps we can be—that the Family has furnished a proportionally small number of litigants. It would certainly seem that as far as there is a trace of the blood of Thomas Munson, those who embrace the legal profession ought to be honest enough to do it no discredit, at least; and those who do not embrace it ought to be sensible enough to have as little to do with the law as possible.

I understand that no services of lawyers will be required in our case to establish a title to some shadowy fortune across the water. But the recognition of the fact that there is nothing of that kind for us to look for does not seem to enshroud this gathering in gloom. We have the richer inheritance of the good name and transmitted qualities of Thomas Munson, and of those through whom we derive our descent from him.

When I was kindly looked up by the gentleman to whom we are indebted not only for the principal address of the day, but also for the research which has enabled us to be brought together and to know each other, I had no knowledge of the Family back of my great-grandfather; and knew nothing of him, except that during the Revolution he appeared in the town where I live, and was a sufficiently confident patriot to invest what little money he had in confiscated tory land. But inasmuch as Bennington and Saratoga had been fought the year before, he can hardly be considered entitled to the credit given the Roman citizen who paid full value for the suburban land on which Hannibal lay encamped before defeat. With a knowledge reaching no farther back than this ancestor, and extending to only a portion of his descendants, I was of course greatly delighted when our friend informed me what a large and respectable family I belonged to. He assured me I could go a great way further back than my great-grand-

father, and travel down all the lines of descent without running into the shadow of a gallows.

I think this gathering of his descendants is one upon which the old Puritan Captain may look down with pleasure. Although more than two centuries have passed since he closed his well-spent and honored life, and although times and manners have greatly changed, I venture to say there is no one who bears his name to-day who is not proud of his hard-handed, hard-headed ancestor. It was fitting that this gathering should be held in the city which he helped to found, and that the principal feature of the occasion should be an address commemorative of his character and services.

You may recall that a famous writer has said of one of his characters in fiction, "The largest fidelity to a trust was the life-blood of the man." It occurred to me, as we listened to the story of Thomas Munson's life, that this expression might properly be applied to him. I know of nothing nobler that can be said of any man, in any rank or station. The friends of aristocratic institutions claim that the possession of family titles and estates has a tendency to develop an ennobling pride and increase the sense of responsibility. Let us, who are met to-day in family union, remember that we, too, have an inheritance to preserve and transmit without dishonor—the name and the blood of an honest man.

(12.) I have great pleasure in presenting as the next sentiment, The Artists of the Munson Family, to which Mrs. Eva Munson Smith, of Illinois, has kindly consented to respond by rendering an original vocal solo.

Mrs. Smith rendered, very charmingly, an original vocal solo, entitled "Woodland Warblings."

(13.) We have met here to-day as descendants of Captain Thomas Munson, but we take great pleasure in welcoming as our namesakes and guests, descendants of Richard Munson, who settled in New Hampshire, from whom have sprung many men of ability and influence. I call upon Mr. J. T. Munson, of Texas, to respond for The Portsmouth Race of Munsons.

Mr. Munson said :

I came two thousand miles to meet my kinsmen, but now learn, with regret, from the distinguished Historian of the

Family, that the Munsons of the Portsmouth branch to which I belong are not the descendants of Captain Thomas Munson. There is, however, one way by which I may be admitted into his family. I am a bachelor, and now offer myself to the marriageable daughters of Thomas Munson.

(14.) Not many in palaces, not any in prisons, is the report of our Family Genealogist as he looks over his precious collections. Almost to a man they belong to that Anti-Poverty Society whose motto is, "Energy and Thrift." Following the course of empire, they have become resident in every section of the country. I call upon Dr. A. W. Munson, of Ohio, to respond for those who have taken the advice of Horace Greeley, and "gone west."

My friends: I congratulate you upon this grand occasion. I suppose I can lay claim to being a twig upon the western branch of the great Munson tree that was planted within the limits of this beautiful city nearly two hundred and fifty years ago. I have ever been proud of the Munson cognomen. As one of the Munsons who went west fifty years ago, I can do no better on this occasion, in response to your toast, than to relate some personal recollections of western life during that period. The country to which our family emigrated was then a vast wilderness, the abode and hunting grounds of various tribes of Indians, chief among whom were the Shawnees, the Delawares, and the Wyandottes; all noted as brave and ferocious warriors. The great forest was the haunt of wild animals of various species, the most ferocious of which were the black bear and the ravenous wolf. Our callers by day were from roving bands of Indians. We were nightly serenaded by whole packs of wolves, whose wild and discordant sounds were enough to make a boy's hair stand on end. This music was occasionally charged to the midnight hooting of the owl or the sharp and shrill squall of the wild cat. The speaker proceeded, in a lengthy and very interesting address, to relate many incidents of wild adventure coming under his own observation, and in many of which he participated. It is regretted that the limits of this pamphlet will not admit of the insertion of the whole address.

(15.) From the time when Thomas Munson encountered the perils and hardships of the Pequot War, in 1637, to the last and greatest of modern wars, that of our Rebellion, the Munsons have ever been true to their motto, "Ready for my Country." I will call upon Col. Gilbert D. Munson, of Ohio, to respond for The Soldiers of the Munson Family.

After some imaginings concerning the military history of our antique ancestors, the Colonel observes:

* * * The soldiers of the family, from Captain Thomas Munson down, have stood for freedom, not oppression; for country, not conquest. The descendants of him whose anniversary we celebrate fought in the two great wars of this continent—the Revolutionary War and the War of the Rebellion. And of the latter, it is perhaps our proudest boast that it is the only rebellion the world ever saw crushed without a drop of blood shed in revenge.

Col. John Munson, Majors Theophilus and William, Doctor Eneas, Jr., Captains Jonathan and Moses, Lieutenant Levi, and Stephen, Daniel and Wilmot, and many more, helped the colonies to independence in the Revolutionary War; Captains Ira and Ten Eyck and Charles N., Col. Horace D. and three sons, Rev. Myron A., and many others of the name helped maintain that independence in the War of the Rebellion.

* * * I do not mean to overrate the service in which the Family's soldiers have been engaged; but in my view, the completion of that work, the establishment of unobstructed liberty on this continent, makes possible republics everywhere, and thus—enlightenment and civilization of the world. And if this is so, well may those of the name who died for these great principles be remembered.

Well may it be said, that in the spirit land they of 1776 wait to meet and greet those of 1861. As Bunker Hill, Valley Forge, Trenton, Monmouth and Yorktown are ever associated with the Soldier for American Independence, so, now, Donelson, Shiloh, Vicksburg, Petersburg and Appomattox are ever associated with the soldier for American Nationality and Freedom; and together they are our common heritage of Independence, Nationality and Christian Liberty.

(16.) Having listened to the voice of one of the bravest of our soldiers, we shall be glad to hear from one of our gallant sailors, who won honors

under Farragut and elsewhere during our late war, and who has attained to a position which is evidence of his merit and an honor to the whole family. I take pleasure in introducing Commander Merriman, U. S. N.

Commander Merriman responded :

Well, cousin, this is a nice position you have got me into. It reminds me of a predicament of a fellow similarly placed, who knew as little about telling what he did know, as I do. In his distress he turned to his companion and asked him what he should talk about. "Well," replied his friend, "you talk about a minute and then sit down." That is what I shall do. Once on a time when I was Midshipman of the "fore top" on one of our old sloops of war we were sending up top-gallant yards; and here, for the benefit of my cousins who are land-lubbers, I will say that a sloop of war has three masts, and each mast consists of four parts, the third being called a top-gallant mast. Well, being anxious to beat the others, when the mast rose high enough to force in the "fid" which holds the mast up, I, instead of using the nautical phrase "high enough," sung out, *Whoa!* Instantly from the quarter-deck rose the order, "send that omnibus driver down on deck." So, madder than a hen in a rain-storm, down I came to report to the officer of the deck. The first Lieutenant, a good and kindly officer, called me aside and said: "Young man, remember, as you grow up in the service, that silence will always be your best friend." I thought the advice good at the time, and still think so, and will follow it by closing with the wish that we may have many of these pleasant Reunions.

(17.) We have got far enough along in this jubilation to make it evident to every unbiased mind that the highest felicity in this world necessarily includes being born a Munson, and we have a proper sympathy for those who are not thus happily born. Such unfortunates, as the best thing possible, will attempt, if wise men, to secure Munson wives. Having accomplished this, they become competent to respond with enthusiasm to the sentiment—The Daughters of the Munson Family. I call upon one of these wise and happy men, John A. Amundson, Esq., of New York.

Mr. Chairman: To-day Munson is king, proud of his long ancestry, proud of the lives of quiet usefulness, in all walks of life, that have been led by the members of the Munson family,

and especially proud to-day in seeing gathered together so many intelligent representatives of that family. * * *

In spite of the eloquence and learning that have been so bountifully lavished by the orator of the day, and by other speakers, upon the ability and many virtues shown by the men of the Munson family in politics, in theology, in law, in medicine, in short, in every profession and trade, yet I see no reason for changing the opinion which I formed at first, and which I have ever since cherished, namely, that, after all, the best part of the Munson family consists of the Munson daughters.

Ever since that monument of industry, the Rev. Myron A. Munson, began to labor at the genealogical tree, it has been a matter of constantly increasing wonder that there are so many Munsons. The subject has even attracted the attention of public bodies, and one of these public bodies threatens to take some action. I understand that at a recent convention of grammarians it was a topic of serious discussion whether the name of Smith had not become so common that it should no longer be classed as proper. I want to remind the Rev. Mr. Munson that there is such a thing as being too successful, and that if, as a direct consequence of his labors, the calamity which seems to have overtaken the Smiths shall befall the Munsons, I am very much afraid that the said Munsons will not rise up and call him blessed.

There is this comfort, however, for the Munsons—public bodies move slowly. Let us hope and pray that this may be especially true of conventions of grammarians.

But if public bodies do move slowly, I know of some private bodies that have not moved slowly, but have already anticipated any possible action on the part of the grammarians by marrying out of the Munson family and assuming names as to the perfect propriety of which there can be no doubt. In this conspicuous way the Munson daughters showed that good sense and courage which never desert them in an emergency.

In your remarks introducing this toast, Mr. Chairman, you alluded to those who, not having had the felicity of being born Munsons, had secured Munson wives. Under the circumstances it will be highly proper for me to speak of this class in connection with the daughters of the Munson family.

My subject, then, consists substantially of two parts—the

Munson daughters and those whom they have married. Now, as the latter may truthfully be said to embrace the former, I could very properly confine my attention exclusively to the husbands of the Munson daughters. But I will not take advantage of so technical a construction of the subject.

I am informed upon the best authority—no less than that of the Rev. M. A. Munson, who, in matters of family history, is verily a walking encyclopædia—I am informed that the daughters of the Munson family have been the mothers of many men, good, wise and great in their day and generation. I do not know how this information may strike others, but I will confess that I was not at all surprised. My prophetic soul had told me as much. Of course the sons of the Munson daughters have been good, wise and great. Mr. Chairman, how could they have been otherwise, having such mothers and—such fathers.

This brings me to the second part of my subject—those who have married the Munson daughters. This part of the subject is a very attractive one—at least it seems to have been to the Munson daughters. * * * *

When I come to consider my toast in its truest and best meaning, I feel that if I even attempted to do justice to the Munson daughters, I should seem to those who do not know them to be indulging in rhetorical hysterics, and to those who do know them any words that I might utter would certainly seem to fall far short. But this much I will say: that we who know them, know them to be the pride of their fathers, the idols of their mothers, the dearly beloved of their children, a part of the very lives of their husbands,—and while each of us here fondly thinks of particular ones, we can all unite in saying, "All hail to the Munson daughters!"

(18.) There are people who dote on thorough-bred horses and cattle, but when it comes to the question of pedigree in man, they exhibit the utmost indifference. I regret to say that this trait is not quite unknown in our own Family. Burke says that the record of the pedigree of the Munsons in England, from 1378 to the present, is complete. I doubt not that our Genealogist, who has served so patiently, so unselfishly, so exhaustively and so successfully for many years in tracing the history of the Munson Family in America, will, with leisure, discover the link which connects Captain

Thomas Munson with the Munsons of Lincolnshire, who uphold to the present day, with grace and dignity, the honor of our name in the Old World. I give you "Our Transatlantic Cousins," and call upon our Family Historian, Rev. Myron A. Munson, of Massachusetts, to respond for them.

The Historian observed that the Toast-master had builded more affluently than he knew, since "Our transatlantic cousins" includes "Our Atlantic cousins," which itself includes "Our antic cousins." He would reverse the order of these topics, speaking first of "Our antic cousins." After alluding to the vein of mirthfulness which is proper to the true Munson, he noted instances in which the quality was exaggerated, sampling the practical jokes of Lucianus the Second and the electric witticisms of Dr. Eneas the First. Secondly, "Our Atlantic cousins," men of the sea,—one of the most notable of all being Capt. Samuel: a startling coincidence was quoted,—and then another. Thirdly, "Our transatlantic cousins." We have had two hundred and fifty years of history in America; two hundred and fifty, apparently, in England; how many centuries in Denmark, none can tell. The generous and graceful correspondence of Lord Monson and Sir Edmund were liberally quoted. Fervid republicans though we are, says the Historian, we do not think the less of these great-hearted, splendid Monsons for their allegiance to the English Crown and their connection with the Peerage.

MEMORANDA,

WITH EXCERPTS FROM NEWSPAPERS.

The first definite motion towards a Reunion was in the form of correspondence, conducted by Rev. Myron A. Munson, in the summer of 1884. As a result, members of the seven great branches of the Family held a conference in New Haven, August 27th. The Committee of Arrangements originated by the conference held meetings December 23d and 24th, 1884, and February 17th and June 29th, 1887. The acting members have been Luzerne I., Samuel L., Sheldon, Curtis J., Sr., Jared H. and Edward G. Munson.

Mr. Edgar Munson, of Pennsylvania, presided in Center Church, with the assistance of Hon. Luzerne I. Munson and Dr. Edwin D. Swift, of Connecticut. Mr. Samuel L. Munson, of Albany, N. Y., was Toast-master and presided at the Dinner, with the assistance of Hon. Augustus W. Munson, of Ohio, and Mr. Miles C. Munson, of Washington, D. C.

The gentleman who presided in the church states that he faced "a splendid-looking assembly," and that it could not have comprised fewer than five hundred persons,—well-dressed, self-respecting people.

The day appointed for the gathering proved very fine. The forming and renewing of acquaintanceships and the social intercourse with kinsmen were delightful to a high degree, and the gift of utterance exhibited by the speakers far surpassed expectation. It was the unanimous sentiment that our observance had been most memorable.

One gentleman has since written : "All with whom I conversed spoke of the occasion with enthusiasm and satisfaction. Socially, it was a tremendous success." Another adds—"I consider it to have been a success *in every respect*."

Cordial and interesting letters of regret, too numerous to be presented, came from many quarters. Some, indeed, who had engaged to take an active part in the public exercises, were

prevented by sickness and other causes ; of these were Sheldon Munson, of Connecticut ; Mrs. Cleora Munson Judd and Rev. Wm. R. Campbell, of Massachusetts ; Frederick W. Munson, of Indiana, and Thomas V. Munson, of Texas. The Historical Address was read by Col. Gilbert D. Munson in the place of the Historian, whose strength had given out. The responses to the toasts numbered "10" and "14" were transferred to the evening session, at which time, also, the convention was favored with some dramatic readings by Mrs. C. J. Monson, Jr. A poem prepared for the occasion by Mr. E. L. Barber, failed to appear through misapprehension. A portion of it is presented on a preceding page.

An elegant bouquet was presented to Mrs. Grace Munson Wheeler, aged ninety-five, by Frederick Curtis Munson, aged seventeen days,—intended as a tribute from the youngest Munson to the oldest. The beauty of the design was not marred by the discovery of both a younger Munson and an older one. A large number of the persons present united in presenting Mrs. Wheeler with a morocco-bound copy of Mrs. Eva Munson Smith's *Woman in Sacred Song*.

In the *State Register*, Springfield, Ill., Mrs. Smith published, Sept. 8th, a very interesting article, of more than two columns, upon the Munsons and their Reunion. We quote a few sentences: "I never knew a homely man by the name of Munson. Good looks attend the name, among men. I have yet to find a Munson who cannot sing. Kindred, my heart and hand go out to you to-day in warmest greeting. I joy to have come a thousand miles across broad prairies and over rough mountains to be with you. Peace to the ashes of those who sleep ! Welcome to all of the coming generations who shall bear the name !"

The convention was invited by the New Haven Historical Society, through the courtesy of Mr. Thomas R. Trowbridge, to visit the rooms of the society and inspect its interesting collections. A considerable number of persons had time to avail themselves of the privilege.

The donations to the Treasury of the Committee were as follows :

- \$1.00—Albert Mansfield, Mt. Holly Springs, Pa.
- \$3.00—Edwin D. Swift, Hamden, Conn.
- \$4.00—Erwin L. Barber, Benson, Vt.

\$5.00—Rowland B. Lacey, Bridgeport, Conn.; P. S. Munson, Geneva, N. Y.; C. C. Munson, Lincoln, Neb.; Henry Munson, Mattewan, Mich.; Mrs. J. F. Miller, Medina, O.; P. H. Clark, Ashland, O.; Fred. W. Munson, Logansport, Ind.; L. M. Munson.

\$8.00—Harvey S. Munson, New Haven, Conn.

\$10.00—Luzerne I. Munson, Waterbury, Conn.; Edgar Munson, Williamsport, Pa.; C. La Rue Munson, Williamsport, Pa.; H. H. Munson, Wilmington, N. C.; George A. Munson, Smyrna, N. Y.; John K. Judd, Holyoke, Mass.; Sheldon Munson, Tariffville, Conn.; George Munson, Brooklyn, N. Y.; M. S. Munson, Oyster Creek, Tex.; Edward G. Munson, Cohoes, N. Y.; C. J. Monson, Sen., New Haven, Conn.; Samuel L. Munson, Albany, N. Y.

\$20.00—H. M. McFadden, Havana, Ill.

\$100.00—Mrs. Helen E. M. Williams, Utica, N. Y.

The disbursements of the Committee, aside from the Dinner, amounted to \$225.25. Some of the items were: Rink, \$21.00; Badges, \$39.00; Sexton of Church, \$5.00; Sexton of Rink, \$2.00; Piano, \$6.00; Organist, \$10.00; Orchestra, \$30.00; Printing and Postage, \$87.75.

THE COMMITTEE ON A *MUNSON ASSOCIATION* REPORTED IN FAVOR OF SUCH AN ORGANIZATION, AND THEIR REPORT WAS ADOPTED. ANY MEMBER OF THE FAMILY MAY JOIN BY SENDING HIS OR HER NAME WITH A MEMBERSHIP FEE OF ONE DOLLAR. THE FOLLOWING ARE THE OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION: PRESIDENT, LUZERNE I. MUNSON, WATERBURY, CONN.; VICE-PRESIDENTS, LOVELAND MUNSON, MANCHESTER, VT., AND GILBERT D. MUNSON, ZANESVILLE, O.; SECRETARY AND TREASURER, EDWARD G. MUNSON; EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: SAMUEL L. MUNSON, ALBANY, N. Y.; C. LARUE MUNSON, WILLIAMSPORT, PENN.; HORACE H. MUNSON, WILMINGTON, N. C.; JARED H. MUNSON AND JOHN A. AMUNDSON, NEW YORK; AND MARCUS V. BARRER, TOLEDO, O.

Provision was made by the Association for this printed memorial of the Reunion. It is designed to include only *memorabilia* relating to the Munsons. Its scope excludes all other matter, however instructive, ingenious or eloquent.

A few extracts from newspaper accounts of the Reunion are appended :

The New Haven Evening Register recognized "a family history to be proud of," and pronounced that the plans for the occasion "were successfully carried out, making the Reunion a grand family gala day."

The New Haven Union : "At 11 o'clock, when the commemorative exercises were to begin, there were fully 500 members of the large and extensive family in Center Church. There were Munsons and Monsons, big and little, some wealthy and some distinguished, and others from the humbler walks of life ; old Munsons, who have long exhausted the Biblical allotment of years, and Munsons of extreme youthfulness, and all ages between ; in short, there were Munsons of many kinds and degrees, but they were all nice Munsons, people one would be proud to call his cousins. . . . All these happy, prosperous-looking people, who greeted each other with such warmth and cordiality, shaking hands and exchanging salutations with old acquaintances and new, were the descendants of the estimable Captain Thomas Munson."

The Journal and Courier, under the heading of "A Notable Demonstration," observed that "There were fully 350 members of this large and prosperous family assembled in the church when the chairman called the assembly to order." And again—"In the afternoon 300 of the family sat down to three long tables which extended nearly the entire length of the Lincoln Rink."

The Daily Palladium : "Early yesterday morning car-loads of Munsons from all parts of the country invaded this city. . . . Even if these sisters, brothers, cousins and aunts did show samples of almost every stature, a strong family resemblance among them all could be seen."

The Morning News had for the heading of its report—"Munsons who can talk," and "Bright speeches at a family reunion." It observed—"Lincoln Rink was full of Munsons again last night. . . . They busied themselves in getting thoroughly acquainted, and the assemblage looked very like a big informal reception most of the time."

The Albany Evening Journal concludes its report with the following: "The Genealogy of the Family will be completed in two or three years, and at the time of its publication another reunion will be held."

REGISTER AT LINCOLN RINK.

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| <i>Kansas—</i> | Abner S. Munson, Wichita. |
| <i>Iowa—</i> | William A. Munson, Des Moines. Mrs. Nancy Munson Baldwin, Des Moines. |
| <i>Texas—</i> | M. Ginevra Munson, Denison. Tryphen M. Munson, Denison. Joseph T. Munson, Denison. |
| <i>North Carolina—</i> | Horace H. Munson, Wilmington. |
| <i>Illinois—</i> | Mrs. Eva Munson Smith, Springfield. Mrs. Harriet M. McFadden, Havana. Mrs. H. A. Rowland, Chicago. |
| <i>Ohio—</i> | Augustus W. Munson, Kenton. Gilbert D. Munson, Zanesville. Mrs. Lulu P. Munson, Zanesville. Sarah Munson, Zanesville. Charles E. Munson, Columbus. Horatio N. Munson, Mentor. Francis M. Munson, Marion. Lyman Munson, Medina. Leverett Munson, Saybrook. Mary A. Munson Sellew, Cincinnati. Laura S. Hollister, Cincinnati. H. E. Corning, Elyria. Mrs. H. E. Corning, Elyria. Mrs. Marie Bacon, Oberlin. |
| <i>Michigan—</i> | Emma Monson Peirce, Grand Rapids. Mabel Peirce, Grand Rapids. |
| <i>District of Columbia—</i> | Miles C. Munson, Washington. Mrs. M. C. Munson, Washington. Lilian Munson, Washington. Ruth G. D. Havens, Washington. |
| <i>Canada—</i> | Mrs. James Elliott, Bowmanville, Ont. |
| <i>Pennsylvania—</i> | Edgar Munson, Williamsport. Mrs. Edgar Munson, Williamsport. C. LaRue Munson, Williamsport. Mrs. Adeliza Munson Merriman, Williamsport. H. A. Merriman, Williamsport. Salmon Munson, Orange. Angeline Munson, Orange. Hamie Hahn, Wilkesbarre. Phoebe Gay, Wyoming. Fisher Gay, Wyoming. |

Pennsylvania—

A. Mansfield, Mt. Holly Springs.
A. R. Stamy, Lancaster.
Mrs. A. R. Stamy, Lancaster.
Clarence J. Reddig, Shippensburg.
Mrs. Eva D. M. Reddig, Shippensburg.

New Jersey—

Eva P. M. Reddig, Shippensburg.
Charles H. Munson, Newark.
Mrs. James F. Munson, Newark.
Edgar Munson, Ogdensburg.
Theodosia Munson, Paterson.
S. G. McKiernan, Paterson.

New York—

Mrs. S. G. McKiernan, Paterson.
Samuel L. Munson, Albany.
Mrs. S. L. Munson, Albany.
Harriet L. Munson, Albany.
Edward G. Munson, Cohoes.
Mrs. E. G. Munson, Cohoes.
J. Milton Munson, Canandaigua.
Philander S. Munson, Geneva.
W. H. Meaker, Auburn.
Mrs. Helen Munson Meeker, Auburn.
George A. Munson, Smyrna.
John H. Munson, Smyrna.
Ainer Munson, Ouleout.
M. D. Munson, Oneonta.
Frederick A. Munson, Sing Sing.
Mrs. A. A. Ash, Sing Sing.
Frank C. Ash, Sing Sing.
Matilda Ash, Sing Sing.
Harrie Ash, Sing Sing.
Mrs. Claribel Robinson, Sing Sing.
Kneeland J. Munson, Millerton.
Delia S. Munson, Millerton.
K. E. E. Munson, Millerton.
Mrs. Platt N. Plaine, Millerton.
Levi Munson, Jr., Port Washington, L. I.
Catharine Munson, Port Washington, L. I.
Walter Munson, Port Washington, L. I.
Millie Munson, Port Washington, L. I.
Jared H. Munson, Brooklyn.
Frederick Munson, Brooklyn.
Mrs. C. A. Munson, Brooklyn.
Lilian A. Munson, Brooklyn.
Charles F. Munson, Brooklyn.
Walter D. Munson, Brooklyn.
Mrs. W. D. Munson, Brooklyn.
C. W. Munson, Brooklyn.
F. C. Munson, Brooklyn.
Della C. Munson, Brooklyn.

- New York—*
 George Munson, Brooklyn.
 Mrs. George Munson, Brooklyn.
 Joseph G. Story, Brooklyn.
 Frederick B. Hyde, Brooklyn.
 Titus Munson Coan, New York.
 John A. Amundson, New York.
 Carrie M. Amundson, New York.
 Charles E. Munson, New York.
 Mary L. Munson Frisbie, New York.
 Abbie Hartley Wightman, New York.
 Francis A. Winslow, New York.
 Mrs. Mary G. Winslow, New York.
 Charles S. Wood, New York.
 Mrs. C. S. Wood, New York.
 Lily Wood, New York.
 Daisy Wood, New York.
- Vermont—*
 Loveland Munson, Manchester.
 Mrs. Loveland Munson, Manchester.
 Ann Eliza Munson, Burlington.
 Laura A. Miller, Burlington.
 Erwin L. Barber, Benson.
- New Hampshire—*
 A. N. Wood, Nashua.
 Mrs. A. N. Wood, Nashua.
- Massachusetts—*
 H. Willard Munson, Huntington.
 Mrs. H. Willard Munson, Huntington.
 Wilson A. Munson, Huntington.
 Garry W. Munson, Huntington.
 Maud E. Munson, Huntington.
 H. Wilson Munson, Huntington.
 Mrs. Paulina S. Munson, Holyoke.
 John K. Judd, Holyoke.
 Cyrus D. Munson, Hudson.
 Mrs. C. D. Munson, Hudson.
 Silas H. Munson, Boston.
 Ida C. Munson White, Boston.
 Lilian E. Munson Hill, Boston.
 E. C. Merriman, Boston.
 John C. Munson, Great Barrington.
 Anson P. Munson, Springfield.
 Arthur W. Lyman, Southampton.
 Mrs. Anna Munson Lyman, Southampton.
- Connecticut—*
 L. E. Brooks, Ansonia.
 Mrs. L. E. Munson Brooks, Ansonia.
 Hollis B. Munson, Bethany.
 Harry W. Munson, Bethany.
 Ralph Munson, Bethlehem.
 Rowland B. Lacey, Bridgeport.
 Elizabeth R. B. Lacey, Bridgeport.
 Ezra D. Dickerman, Bridgeport.

Connecticut—

Frederick W. Storrs, Bridgeport.
Martha Munson Storrs, Bridgeport.
Evelyn Munson Storrs, Bridgeport.
Mrs. Edwin Munson, Cheshire.
Clara L. Munson, Cheshire.
Katie J. Munson, Cheshire.
Mrs. Fannie Bristol, Cheshire.
Abbie Bristol, Cheshire.
Mena A. Bates, Cheshire.
Mrs. Mary Munson Camp, Durham.
Sarah A. Camp, Durham.
Mrs. Ellen E. Manley, Falls Village.
Lyman Munson, Falls Village.
Mrs. Lyman Munson, Falls Village.
Mrs. Erastus Munson, Guilford.
Mary Field Munson, Guilford.
Edwin D. Swift, Hamden.
Elizabeth P. Swift, Hamden.
Henry Munson, Hamden.
Henry W. Munson, Hamden.
Mrs. Ann L. Munson Warner, Hamden.
Laura E. Warner, Hamden.
Orrin Munson, Hamden.
Marinda W. Munson, Hamden.
Nora A. Munson, Hamden.
Angeline Munson Talmadge, Hamden.
Juliaetta Wooding, Hamden.
Wyllys E. Munson, Hamden.
Bazel Munson, Hamden.
Loisa J. Munson, Hamden.
Francis B. Munson, Hamden.
Leonard Munson, Hamden.
Mrs. Leonard Munson, Hamden.
Elvin M. Warner, Hamden.
Mrs. Mary M. Ward, Hartford.
Susie E. Dibble, Hartford.
Jennette E. Butler, Hartford.
Mrs. Frank Munson, Litchfield.
Mary A. Munson Dowd, Madison.
Grace V. D. Spencer, Madison.
Mrs. T. A. Dowd, Madison.
Harry S. Munson, Madison.
George R. Curtis, Meriden.
Mrs. Augusta Munson Curtis, Meriden.
Agnes D. Curtis, Meriden.
Edward W. Munson, Meriden.
Mrs. E. W. Munson, Meriden.
Edward H. Munson, Meriden.
Henry S. Pratt, Meriden.

Connecticut—

Mrs. H. S. Pratt, Meriden.
James H. Huggins, Meriden.
Mrs. J. H. Huggins, Meriden.
A. N. Mack, Meriden.
Mrs. A. N. Mack, Meriden.
Bertie A. Mack, Meriden.
Mrs. Fred E. Barnard, Meriden.
Mrs. Helen Munson Munger, Meriden.
George Munson Curtis, Meriden.
C. Sloper, Middlefield.
Mrs. C. Sloper, Middlefield.
Charles L. Munson, Milford.
Mrs. Sarah Munson Bristol, Milford.
James F. Bristol, Milford.
Stephen W. Glenney, Milford.
Mrs. S. W. Glenney, Milford.
Joseph O. Munson, New Milford.
C. H. Hine, New Milford.
Byron W. Munson, Noroton.
J. M. Munson, Noroton.
Winona I. Munson, Noroton.
Harris B. Munson, Noroton.
Nellie S. Munson, Noroton.
Charles H. Munson, Northford.
Mrs. C. H. Munson, Northford.
John M. Foote, Northford.
Sarah A. Munson Foote, Northford.
Mrs. M. A. Smith, North Branford.
Mrs. George E. Lindsley, North Branford.
Charles S. Lindsley, North Branford.
George O. Munson, North Guilford.
Ellen T. Munson, North Guilford.
Willard L. Munson, North Haven.
Mrs. Ezra S. Munson, North Haven.
Sarah Pierpont, North Haven.
Katharine B. Dowd, North Haven.
Brazil Bradley, North Haven.
J. L. Monson, Portland.
Mrs. J. L. Monson, Portland.
Mrs. Lewis Gaylord, Redding Ridge.
Edna G. Goodsell, Redding Ridge.
Harris B. Munson, Seymour.
Mrs. Harris B. Munson, Sr., Seymour.
Iris E. Munson, Seymour.
Marion H. Munson, Seymour.
Mrs. E. N. Mallory, Southbury.
Clifford Pardee, South Norwalk.
Mary F. Pardee, South Norwalk.
Thomas H. Munson, Stratford.

Connecticut—

Alexander J. Munson, Stratford.
George H. Munson, Stratford.
Burton H. Munson, Stratford.
Mrs. B. H. Munson, Stratford.
Mrs. Sarah Munson Holcomb, Tariffville.
William R. Munson, Tariffville.
M. Celia Munson, Tariffville.
Samuel R. Munson, Torrington.
Ransom R. Munson, Union City.
Lilian E. Munson, Union City.
Henry C. Munson, Wallingford.
Mrs. Harriet Munson Harrison, Wallingford.
Luzerne I. Munson, Waterbury.
Mrs. Mary B. Munson, Waterbury.
Seneca L. Munson, Waterbury.
Mrs. S. L. Munson, Waterbury.
C. R. Bradley, Waterbury.
Mrs. C. R. Bradley, Waterbury.
L. S. Beach, Waterbury.
Mrs. L. S. Beach, Waterbury.
Mrs. E. M. Leonard, Waterbury.
Mrs. Lydia A. Byrnes, Waterbury.
Mrs. Mary L. Fowler, Waterbury.
Harriette L. Gaylord, Waterbury.
J. Marshall Munson, Watertown.
William J. Munson, Watertown.
Marion A. Munson, Watertown.
Wallace G. Munson, West Haven.
Whitney C. Monson, West Haven.
Annah Monson, West Haven.
Anna M. Monson, West Haven.
Albert C. Monson, West Haven.
Elizabeth Munson Wooding, Woodbridge.
Nellie Wooding, Woodbridge.
Jessie Wooding, Woodbridge.
John N. Munson, Woodbury.
Mrs. J. N. Munson, Woodbury.
C. J. Monson, Sr., New Haven.
Mrs. C. J. Monson, Sr., New Haven.
C. J. Monson, Jr., New Haven.
Mrs. C. J. Monson, Jr., New Haven.
Eliza A. Munson, New Haven.
Frances T. Munson, New Haven.
Emily C. Munson, New Haven.
Edward B. Munson, New Haven.
Mrs. E. B. Munson, New Haven.
Grace A. Munson, New Haven.
Maud J. Munson, New Haven.
Harvey S. Munson, New Haven.

Connecticut—

Samuel M. Munson, New Haven.
Elizabeth Munson, New Haven.
W. Cleveland Monson, New Haven.
James B. Munson, New Haven.
Fred T. Munson, New Haven.
Mrs. F. T. Munson, New Haven.
Josie C. Monson, New Haven.
William W. Monson, New Haven.
William H. Munson, New Haven.
William E. Monson, New Haven.
Willis F. Munson, New Haven.
Mrs. W. F. Munson, New Haven.
Hattie Munson, New Haven.
James D. Munson, New Haven.
Julia A. Munson, New Haven.
Ezra G. Munson, New Haven.
Mrs. E. G. Munson, New Haven.
David C. Monson, New Haven.
Mrs. Sarah A. Monson, New Haven.
Kate A. Munson, New Haven.
John A. Munson, New Haven.
Mrs. J. A. Munson, New Haven.
Libbie J. Munson, New Haven.
Mrs. G. P. Munson, New Haven.
Charles J. Monson, New Haven.
Mrs. C. J. Monson, New Haven.
Mary L. Munson, New Haven.
Myron A. Munson, New Haven.
Jessie D. Chidsey, New Haven.
Mrs. Grace Munson Wheeler, New Haven.
Mrs. Grace A. Glenney, New Haven.
Mrs. M. R. Shepard, New Haven.
Mrs. M. J. Cargill, New Haven.
Bertha J. Cargill, New Haven.
Lillie E. Munson Johnson, New Haven.
F. O. Thayer, New Haven.
Elias M. Gilbert, New Haven.
Mrs. E. M. Gilbert, New Haven.
Lewis L. Gilbert, New Haven.
Mary E. Gilbert, New Haven.
Annie W. Gilbert, New Haven.
Mrs. Ellen Munson Curnow, New Haven.
Lilian Munson Curnow, New Haven.
George F. Tuttle, New Haven.
Henrietta S. Tuttle, New Haven.
Nettie H. Tuttle, New Haven.
Isabel L. Oviatt, New Haven.
Hannah C. Oviatt, New Haven.
Nathan W. Oviatt, New Haven.

Connecticut—

Mrs. Myron G. Gilbert, New Haven.
James E. Blair, New Haven.
Mrs. J. E. Blair, New Haven.
A. J. Warner, New Haven.
Mrs. Annie L. Wolcott, New Haven.
Julia F. Northrop, New Haven.
Z. T. Strong, New Haven.
Mrs. Lillie Munson Strong, New Haven.
Mary S. Goodsell, New Haven.
Sarah J. Bailey, New Haven.
Mrs. G. W. Sanford, New Haven.
Mrs. Abigail B. Hitchcock, New Haven.
Luther Munson Gilbert, New Haven.
Caroline E. Munson Lockwood, New Haven.
Mary G. Lockwood, New Haven.
Mrs. George Botsford, New Haven.
M. J. Botsford, New Haven.
Lillie J. Gourley, New Haven.
Clarence M. Gourley, New Haven.
Lottie Bell Gourley, New Haven.
Mrs. Kate Munson Jones, New Haven.
Mrs. A. T. Candee, New Haven.
Mrs. Henrietta M. Hitchcock, New Haven.
Susie J. Baldwin, New Haven.
Hattie M. Goodsell, New Haven.
E. Page, New Haven.
Henry A. Munson.

MEMBERS

OF THE

MUNSON ASSOCIATION.

The following have joined the Munson Association up to the time of going to press. More will be added as their names are received.

Mrs. Grace Wheeler, New Haven, Conn.
Mrs. Helen E. Williams, Utica, N. Y.
Gilbert D. Munson, Zanesville, Ohio.
E. C. Merriman, Navy Yard, Boston, Mass.
George Munson, Brooklyn.
H. A. Merriman, Williamsport, Pa.
Edgar Munson, Williamsport, Pa.

The Munson Family Reunion.

William J. Munson, Watertown, Conn.
 Miss Ann Eliza Munson, Burlington, Vt.
 Caroline E. M. Lockwood, New Haven, Conn.
 F. M. Munson, Marion, Ohio.
 Ida C. Munson White, Roxbury, Mass.
 Silas H. Munson, Boston, Mass.
 George S. Munson, Smyrna, N. Y.
 John H. Munson, Smyrna, N. Y.
 D. C. Munson, Westville, Conn.
 Edward G. Munson, Cohoes, N. Y.
 (Residence, Waterford, N. Y.)
 Mrs. Edward G. Munson, Waterford, N. Y.
 Mrs. Eva Munson Smith, Springfield, Ill.
 William H. Monson, New Haven, Conn.
 Loveland Monson, Manchester, Vt.
 Mrs. Loveland Monson, Manchester, Vt.
 Anna M. Campbell, Manchester, Vt.
 Joseph G. Story, Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Mrs. F. B. Wightman, 68 E. 131 st., New York City.
 Mrs. George R. Curtis, Meriden, Conn.
 Mrs. Mary A. Sillew, New Haven, Conn.
 Horatio N. Munson, Mentor, Ohio.
 Miss Fanny T. Munson, New Haven, Conn.
 Mrs. D. Frisbie, New York City.
 Sheldon Munson, Tariffville, Conn.
 Mrs. C. B. Holcomb, Tariffville, Conn.
 Samuel L. Munson, Albany, N. Y.
 Augustus W. Munson, Kenyon, Ohio.
 A. S. Munson, Wichita, Kansas.
 Horace D. Munson, Zanesville, Ohio.
 Charles E. Munson, Columbus, Ohio.
 Ainer Munson, Ouleout, N. Y.
 Samuel M. Munson, New Haven, Conn.
 Rev. Myron A. Munson, New Haven, Conn.
 Clarissa Munson Bronson, Tallmadge, Ohio.
 C. J. Monson, Sr., New Haven, Conn.
 Erwin L. Barber, Benson, Vt.
 Byron W. Munson, M. D., Noroton, Conn.
 C. J. Monson, Jr., New Haven, Conn.
 Mrs. Ellen C. Shimmel, Evans Mills, N. Y.
 Mrs. Emily S. Munson, Elgin, Ill.
 Mrs. Ruth E. Booth, Allegan, Mich.
 Mrs. Laura Miller, Medina, Ohio.
 Salmon Munson, Orange, Pa.
 Lucius C. Munson, Glens Falls, N. Y.
 David R. Munson, Indianapolis, Ind.
 W. W. Munson, Otisco, N. Y.
 Philander S. Munson, Geneva, N. Y.
 Mrs. A. N. Mack, Meriden, Conn.

Mrs. Helen Munson Meaker, Auburn, N. Y.
Cyrus D. Munson, Hudson, Mass.
Edward B. Munson, New Haven, Conn.
H. Wilson Munson, Huntington, Mass.
Charles E. Munson, New York City.
W. D. Munson, Brooklyn, N. Y.
H. Willard Munson, Huntington, Mass.
John K. Judd, Holyoke, Mass.
Mrs. H. W. McFadden, Havana, Ill.
Horace H. Munson, Wilmington, N. C.
C. LaRue Munson, Williamsport, Pa.
Edgar Munson, Jr., Williamsport, Pa.
George S. Munson, Williamsport, Pa.
J. T. Munson, Denison, Texas.
Titus Munson Coan, Century Club, New York City.
Dr. C. W. Munson, Toledo, Ohio.
Mrs. Alvan Munson, Worcester, Mass.
C. C. Munson, Worcester, Mass.
J. Gibb Smith, New Haven, Conn.,
Henry C. Munson, Greenfield, Mass.
Rev. J. O. Munson, New Milford, Conn.
Lucy A. Hungerford, Bethlehem, Conn.
Rev. Frederick Munson, 170 Clinton st., Brooklyn, N. Y.
J. Austin Munson, M. D., Grahamville, N. Y.
J. F. Munson Camp, Highwood, Chicago, Ill.
John Y. Munson, Berthoud, Col.
Mrs. Aria Munson McKiernan, Paterson, N. J.
S. Munson Martin, Big Bend, Wis.
D. B. Munson, Roscoe, N. Y.
W. A. Munson, Des Moines, Iowa.
M. S. Munson, Oyster Creek Station, Texas.
Walter B. Munson, Oyster Creek Station, Texas.
Sylvanus I. Munson, Leavenworth, Kansas.
Sarah Louisa Field, Cambridge, Mass.
L. I. Munson, Waterbury, Conn.
Mary B. Munson, Waterbury, Conn.
Mary E. Munson, Waterbury, Conn.
Sarah R. Munson, Waterbury, Conn.
Mary L. Fowler, Waterbury, Conn.
Amos Louis Munson, Mitchel, Ind.
Isaac E. Munson, Wallingford, Vt.
Cornelia A. Munson, Norwich, N. Y.
J. H. Munson, 56 Liberty st., New York City.
Rowland B. Lacey, Bridgeport, Conn.
David S. Lacey, San Diego, Cal.
C. Munson, Philipsburg, Pa.
Fred. W. Munson, Logansport, Ind.
Mrs. Emily E. Parker, Quechee, Vt.
Francis A. Benedict, Brooklyn, N. Y.

1. The first part of the paper discusses the importance of the study of the history of the Chinese language and the role of the Chinese language in the development of the Chinese nation. It points out that the Chinese language is the main carrier of Chinese culture and the main tool for the Chinese people to communicate with each other. Therefore, the study of the history of the Chinese language is of great significance for understanding Chinese culture and the development of the Chinese nation.

2. The second part of the paper discusses the development of the Chinese language in different historical periods. It points out that the Chinese language has a long history and has gone through many changes. In the early period, the Chinese language was mainly used in the form of oral communication. With the development of society, the Chinese language gradually evolved into a written language. In the middle period, the Chinese language reached a high level of development. In the late period, the Chinese language continued to evolve and develop.

3. The third part of the paper discusses the influence of the Chinese language on the development of Chinese culture. It points out that the Chinese language is the main carrier of Chinese culture. Through the Chinese language, Chinese culture has been passed down from generation to generation. The Chinese language has also played a significant role in the development of Chinese culture. For example, the Chinese language has provided a rich vocabulary for Chinese culture and has also played a significant role in the development of Chinese literature.

4. The fourth part of the paper discusses the role of the Chinese language in the development of the Chinese nation. It points out that the Chinese language is the main tool for the Chinese people to communicate with each other. Through the Chinese language, the Chinese people have been able to form a unified nation. The Chinese language has also played a significant role in the development of the Chinese nation. For example, the Chinese language has provided a rich vocabulary for the Chinese people and has also played a significant role in the development of Chinese society.

The Munson Family Reunion.

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Mrs. Frank Jones, New Haven, Conn.
Mrs. S. N. Bushnell, Bethany, Pa.
Mrs. Albert Mansfield, Mt. Holley Springs, Penn.
Miss Annie E. Munson, West Winsted, Conn.
J. G. Munson, Otisco, N. Y.
J. M. Munson, Watertown, Conn.
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Mrs. R. Webber, Virginia City, Nevada.
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Mrs. Adelaide Lowe, Fowlerville, Mich.
Harriet Lyman Munson, Albany, N. Y.
Edward Garry Munson, Albany, N. Y.
Paul Babcock Munson, Albany, N. Y.
Samuel Lyman Munson, Jr., Albany, N. Y.
Amy Treadwell Munson, Albany, N. Y.
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Clinton Fuller, Elmira, Ill.
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